



Fall 2007

The Rock, Fall 2007 (vol. 78, no. 2)

Whittier College

ROCK



**PUBLIC
POLICY,
PUBLIC
SERVICE**

**WHITTIER
COLLEGE
MAGAZINE**

FALL 2007

>> MODEL CITIZENS: THE MUN PROGRAM
>> OUTSTANDING GRADUATES OF 2007



Whether it's been **50 years or five,**
or something in-between,
the time to **come home** is now.

JOIN US FOR WHITTIER WEEKEND 2007, OCTOBER 26–28.

Whittier Weekend 2007 highlights include:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

Poet College. Return to the Whittier classroom for a quick lesson in political science or education and child development. (No tests will be given!)

Bonfire & Pep Rally. Join generations of Poets for a pre-Homecoming tradition, complete with roaring blaze, cheers, and the crowning of Mr. and Ms. Whittier 2007.

Salsa Dancing. End the night under the stars, learning to salsa with students and faculty at Garrett House.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

President's State of the College/ Town Hall. Find out what's new and what's on the horizon for your alma mater.

Alumni House Dedication

Ceremony. Help usher in a new era of alumni-centered programming as Johnson House is reinvented.

Homecoming Football Game: Poets v. Staggs. All gloves are off as Whittier takes on the team from Claremont-Mudd-Scripps. Our advantage? Ray Dezember '53 will serve as honorary Poet coach.

Reunion Class Receptions &

Dinners. Reunite with your fellow classmates to catch-up and to reminisce about your days on the Poet campus.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

Walk with the President. Take an early morning campus stroll and share your ideas with President Herzberger.

Golden Anniversary Brunch.

Graduates gathered from 1956 and before welcome their latest club inductees, the Class of 1957.

36th Annual Tardeada. This traditional fiesta of food, music, and dance concludes the weekend's marathon of events.

whittier.edu/alumni



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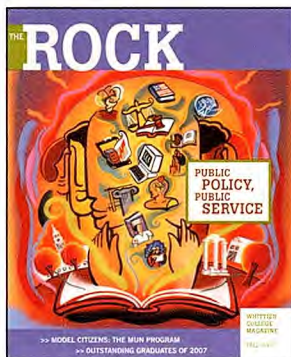
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ABOUT THE COVER: A cornerstone of Whittier College's Quaker heritage, character, and educational program is service to the community—whether exercised in individual volunteerism, social work and education, political office or military commitment, or, as featured in this issue, in pursuit of public policy.



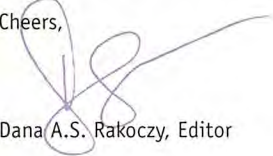


FROM THE EDITOR

FRIENDS:

Over the past few issues, I have received notes, e-mails, and passing comments on the lines that appear at the bottom of most pages in the magazine—little-known Whittier College stories, historical points, and “fun facts.” I’m told that in some cases, this is some of the most interesting reading in the publication, a critique I humbly-and-with-humor accept. However, in good conscience, I can’t take any credit. The overwhelming majority of these gems are literally lifted from the work of Charles “Chuck” Elliot ‘67, who authored the historical tome *Whittier College: The first century on the Poet campus*, published in 1986 for Whittier’s centennial. Because of Chuck’s efforts, these interesting and colorful scraps of WC history are preserved in an amazing literary quilt. As someone who’s not only read this book cover-to-cover, but has shamelessly borrowed bits from it to serve this magazine, I highly encourage you to thumb through a copy next time you’re on campus. Just stop by my office; I have my copy at the ready, though it’s looking a bit dog-eared by now.

Cheers,



Dana A.S. Rakoczy, Editor

LETTERS:

► The presence of the Poet Revolutionary Party (PRP), the College Democrats, and now re-establishment of the Republican Club as the Nixon Republican Club disturbs me as, by definition, all are vested interest groups and quite possibly will generate polarizing positions in campus life. Often collective action promotes discord. In my day, if I may, Whittier’s “clubs” were the Societies. We also had a Geology Club and a Religion Club. No political positions were on the agenda. I agree with the author [Vince McLeod, “Conservatively Speaking,” *The Rock*, Spring 2007] regarding American politics taking a turn for the worse, but Whittier need not have student organizations based on the beliefs of the major political parties, nor even the collective interests of the PRP.

—ZANE DE ARAKAL ‘51

► Using the word “famous” in reference to Nixon [“Richard M. Nixon Fellowship Program Successfully Underway,” *The Rock*, Spring 2007] either represents your blind loyalty to the Republican Party, or your ignorance of history. A more appropriate word would be “infamous.”

Perhaps you were absent or asleep in your grammar class when that word was defined.

—EARL ODY ‘49

► I want to congratulate you concerning the Spring 2007 issue of *The Rock*. It is bright, interesting, and informative copy, and I think it continues to represent the college very well indeed.

—EUGENE S. MILLS,
WHITTIER COLLEGE PRESIDENT EMERITUS

► I usually just quickly thumb through, but this time I read much of the issue. The various political articles were very good...I’m a very conservative type guy and was a bit afraid the Kissinger report was going to be left-slanting and mean-spirited. It wasn’t. I even felt OK with the faculty-student stance, as it did place that era’s politics “in context.” I also liked the sections about campus spiritual life, the thorough information about sports, and the light shone upon society life.

—TOM NOBLE ‘67,
PROUD WILLIAM PENN!

THE ROCK

THE MAGAZINE OF WHITTIER COLLEGE

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Letters are subject
to publication in
a future issue of
The Rock.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS:



A MINI-REVOLUTION is underway across America, with many college presidents feeling as I do and saying "enough is enough."

Americans love rankings. We are constantly creating and recreating lists of the top 10 football and basket-

ball teams, the top 100 communities in which to live, the top songs of the year, and even the top 10 worst-named college mascots (am I the only one who doesn't mind the Poets always being named to this list?). Creating and debating such lists is fun, and gives relatives and friends something to argue about when they get together. However, in most cases it would be folly to base important decisions on such rankings.

Unfortunately, college and university presidents have been guilty of lending credibility year-after-year to one of the most invalid, superficial, but widely read rankings—the annual listing of the so-called "top" institutions of higher education, published by a well-known national magazine. Each year presidents are sent the names of colleges and universities (the mailing I receive includes the names of about 220 private institutions, including Whittier), and we are asked to assign a score to each on a scale of one to five, representing our opinion about the quality of the college or university.

When we get this list, most of us ask, "How in the world do I summarize my judgment of the strengths and weaknesses of my own school on a five-point scale, not to mention assigning a value to 219 others;" and "even if I could capture my institution's quality on this scale, why would I provide any number other than a five to this publication?"

This year, faced once again with this request, many college and university presidents rebelled and many others vowed to educate aspiring students and their families about valid means of judging the quality and value of the colleges and universities they explore.

On this issue, I have started my own mini-campaign. I point every college-bound student toward three particular benchmarks, which, as a parent of recent college graduates and as a college president, I have found to be quite revealing of an institution's quality and value.

First, I advise prospective students to visit each campus of interest and find at least five seniors, to ask if they can identify three-to-five faculty members who know them well enough to write a personalized, in-depth letter of recommendation for a job or for graduate or professional school. A high number of "yes" answers usually indicates that classes are small, the faculty care, and the academic culture supports students' success. (At Whittier, visitors can even ask juniors this question, and the answers almost invariably will be "yes!")

Second, I encourage investigation of each institution's diversity and emphasis on developing cultural competencies. To be successful in the workplace, college graduates must be able to lead and work alongside colleagues who come from a variety of racial, ethnic, religious, and national backgrounds. There is no better training ground than a school, and Whittier's status as one of the most diverse private colleges in America means that our students learn naturally both within and outside the classroom and are well-prepared for roles they will be called upon to play throughout their lives.

Third, students should ask each college and university about its performance

on the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). As a measure of the environment for learning on campus and a predictor of how much a student will grow intellectually and personally during the college years, the NSSE has no peer. I willingly share Whittier's own results with all inquirers.

Of course, since Whittier College scores highly on the NSSE (in fact, our seniors' ratings place us near the top of three of the five major factors), and since our class sizes are small (a healthy 13-to-1), our diversity enviable (42 percent of students are people of color, as are almost one-third of the faculty), and our faculty and academic culture supportive, I might be accused of some bias in advocating these measures. But watch carefully for news about higher education over the next year. You will see authorities other than me recommending such indices and, at the same time, dismissing the rankings and lists designed to sell magazines rather than educate the public.

And one final note. It is not just what we on campus are doing that ensures educational vitality and students' success; we need all readers to join in. I ask each of you to get involved—as a volunteer, as a donor to The Whittier Fund, and by recommending Whittier to a prospective student. Your continued engagement and support will help Whittier beat the rankings battle, and help spread the word about the valuable education students receive here.

Sincerely,

Sharon D. Herzberger
President



WHITTIER ENTERS PUBLIC ART ARENA

MODERN SCULPTURES LOANED, INSTALLED ON CAMPUS

Photos by Steve Burns



The primary piece in the Whittier suite is the Hadany Arch, an abstract, red steel sculpture that resembles a Mobius curve, looms 20 feet at its tallest point, and is the scale model for the 100-foot masterwork that currently spans a roadway leading into Lycoming Mall in Pennsylvania. The original artwork by noted Israeli sculptor Israel Hadany was commissioned in 1977 by Philip and Muriel Berman, both of whom had a passion for discovering and aiding up-and-coming artists in America, Europe, and Israel. The Hadany Arch is settled on a stretch of grass between Wardman Library and historic Hoover Hall.

The other two loaned artworks are part of the Berman Foundation's "tonal piece" collection. The construct is towering, thin pipes of various sizes, but the magic of these works is their mobility in wind or subtle ground shifts, which produces a light-toned chime. Of the two designated Whittier pieces, one is by an unknown artist, and one is by sculptor Willy Breuggman. The two sculptures are installed on the southeastern corner of Wardman Library.

CAMPUS EXHIBITIONISM.

The three, towering, Berman Foundation-donated sculptures are installed on the southern perimeter of Wardman Library.

THREE STRIKING, LARGE-SCALE, contemporary outdoor sculptures now grace the Poet campus, thanks to a generous loan from the Philip and Muriel Berman Foundation and its current president, daughter Nancy Berman.

The pieces, formerly housed on the Berman estate in Pennsylvania, are among only a handful of the foundation's extensive sculpture collection of major 20th century artists slated for display on the West Coast. Thus far, Whittier College is one of the only sites—and the first-ever West Coast school—designated for the honor, receiving the loan of three sculptures for a minimum of five years.

PROGRESSIVE MOVEMENT

WHITTIER SCHOLAR AND GRADUATING SENIOR SUDESHNA MAJUMDAR'S final project "Music Dance Art Poetry: A Progressive Movement" turned out to be an impressive benefit event, and a highlight in the Shannon Center's spring theatrical lineup.

Staging a full-scale production, Majumdar's show fused eclectic performances by alternative bands and multi-cultural dance troupes, offbeat artworks, and original poetry "slamming" in a high-energy and well-received evening. Majumdar, who focused her studies on music marketing and socio-cultural promotion, succeeded in enlisting some of the top talent in the local underground scene for the one-night-only event, a benefit for the Whittier Cultural Arts Foundation. Performers included poet Komplex, hip hop dance crew Sick Step, vocal and drum group Adaawe, African music and martial arts troupe Capoeira Batuque, hip hop band Fresh City, and reggae musician Casper Lomayesva.

"The mission of the concert," explains Majumdar, "was to encourage youth to take an active role in their community by using the arts to express themselves. It [was conceived] to speak to young people in a way that few things can, to help them realize that the arts can be used as a catalyst to promote diversity and social change."

GIRL POWER. Performing a lively blend of rhythm and vocals, musical group Adaawe was typical of the high-energy acts headlining a benefit concert coordinated by Sudeshna Majumdar '07.

The event served as Majumdar's capstone Whittier Scholars project.



Photo by Paul Gallah

>> NEARLY 10% OF THE 2007 GRADUATING CLASS WAS PART OF THE WHITTIER SCHOLARS PROGRAM.

HAIL, THE ENTERING POETS!

As summer wound down and another September heated up, the Class of 2011 took up residence on the Whittier campus. No surprise, they are an accomplished group, beginning their college life with a broad range of experiences and pedigrees.

As noted by Admission Director Keiron Miller, these new Poets:

- ▶ **EXCEL AT ACADEMICS.** 40 are members of the National Honor Society, 37 are members of the California Scholarship Federation, five are listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*.
- ▶ **ARE SCIENTISTS, MATHEMATICIANS, AND RESEARCHERS.** This includes the winner of the National Chemistry Competition, one who took second place in state in the Science Olympics, one who earned a perfect score on the math SAT, and a member of the Southern California Junior Academy of Sciences Research Training Program.
- ▶ **COMPETE AT TOP SPORTS LEVELS.** Among the 200 entering student-athletes, one has played on the Hong Kong National Volleyball team; one is ranked nationally and in the world in downhill skiing; one earned a black belt in Tae Kwon Do; one won multiple rugby and sailing awards; and one is a three-time state billiard champion. Two have competed in the Junior Olympics, one in water polo, one in downhill skiing.
- ▶ **PERFORM, WRITE, PLAY, AND CREATE.** They include mariachi band musicians, a member of the International Thespian Society, a state finalist in a photography contest, and professional authors with works published through the National Young Poets Contest and Noble House.
- ▶ **PRACTICE CHARITABLE SERVICE.** Several are members of the National Charity League and are active volunteers for Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Ronald McDonald House, and the Challenger sports program, assisting mentally and physically challenged children participate in athletics. Several serve as tutors in their local cities, and quite a few have taught English internationally.
- ▶ **ARE LEADERS IN THE MAKING.** Their activities include participation in the Global Youth Leadership Institute and National Young Leaders Conference; one was appointed People-to-People Sports Ambassador to Australia and New Zealand; 12 are Girl Scouts Gold Award recipients, and seven are Eagle Scouts.



INAUGURAL NIXON FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

**RESEARCH PROJECTS ALREADY
UNDERWAY AS SUMMER BEGAN**

HANSEN HUNT '08, a Whittier Scholar pursuing a program in business management/marketing, Spanish, and philosophy, and **Nicole Greer '08**, a history major and Spanish and psychology double minor, were named the inaugural pair to receive Richard M. Nixon Fellowships, a program established at the College earlier this year.

OPPORTUNITY ▶ KNOCKS.

If you would like to contribute to the Nixon Fellowship Program, or if you would like to learn about opportunities connected to this program, please contact the Office of Advancement, (562) 907-4213.

Hunt's winning proposal capitalizes on Nixon's policies toward foreign markets and international cooperation in commerce, but notes that idealized theory has radically suffered in practice over the last several decades. His project over the next year will target small, local, goods-and-services businesses in Mexico, with a goal to determine which utilize and apply best practices, socially responsible means, and local resources. Hunt then plans to create a website to market these small companies, broadening their consumer reach beyond the long shadow of neighboring competitors—multi-national corporations and *maquiladoras*, that, according to Hunt, are more likely to exploit both indigenous labor and resources.

Greer's interests are a bit more personal to the Poet campus. Examining the lasting impact of Nixon's legacy on the nation as well as on Whittier College, she plans to fully research how this controversial heritage is currently played out among Whittier faculty and students. Over summer, Greer interned at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library & Museum, working on the digitization of newly declassified oral histories in order to gain greater understanding about the complexities of interpreting Nixon-the-man versus the politician and public figure. Through fall, Greer will conduct a scientific study of campus attitudes toward—and understanding of—the former president, and collate her qualitative findings and quantitative data into a final report to be completed in spring.



SWEET RIDE

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR MAKES WAVES COMBINING INTERNET, INGENUITY

IT DID NOT TAKE LONG for Matt Jung '08 to figure out that he could not easily afford the most critical piece of equipment in his new surfing hobby: a well-crafted and stylish surfboard. After all, the surfboard manufacturing industry takes full advantage of the craze to ride the waves, offering a range of pricing, styles, and materials—none of which is particularly geared to those with more conservative incomes.

But rather than let himself be out-priced, the industrious Jung decided to learn how to make his own surfboard. And so with no experience, apprenticeship

training, or knowledge other than what he gained surfing a cyber-sea—the World Wide Web—he began to do just that.

As he tells it, all it took was connecting with a few online forums on surfboard shaping, reading a lot, and scouring several Internet archives. With savings and high school graduation money, he then purchased basic equipment and set up his workshop in a shed at his parents' home.

Officially Jung's business began in the summer of 2004, focusing on simple repairs to friends' boards and capitalizing on word-of-mouth marketing to build clientele. Soon

after, he began creating full-scale boards, emphasizing quality craftsmanship with visual concepts that appealed to his target market: "core" surfers.

In the ensuing three years, Jung's company Wellen has substantially grown. It now encompasses personalized, affordable boards and an apparel line, which is rapidly helping to build widespread brand recognition. Looking ahead, Jung is already testing a new line of foam and fiberglass wake surfers for 2008; is sponsoring a team of young surfers who will be featured in a new Wellen ad campaign; and is considering allocating a portion of sales "to the planet."

"After all, if the waves go away," he wryly notes, "then Wellen goes away."

Jung is also in talks with two other Whittier entrepreneurs regarding a possible expansion of the business to include skateboard and snowboard product lines.

Though competing in a market dominated by well-known international companies that have shaped surfing and beach culture, Jung holds his own through smart pricing, by channeling sales through local retail shops—such as Shelter Surf Shop and Billy's Boardshop—and by focusing his marketing through online and face-to-face networking. And this grassroots strategy is clearly paying off. Originally, Jung's goal was to push five boards per month, but this summer, 35 Wellen boards were sold, along with a high-volume of branded apparel.

"On one hand, everything is an experiment; I'm not operating from any strict business plan. But it's also all my risk, money I owe," says Jung. "Realistically, if you want to tap into this culture, and stay in it, you have to be flexible, and you have to maintain your credibility by staying connected to it. And you've got to keep your eye on the big picture—the possibilities, not the limits."

MAN BEHIND THE MASK.

Entrepreneur and craftsman Matt Jung '08 applies a finish to one of his handmade surfboards while sporting a branded T-shirt—both representing inventory from his company, Wellen, www.wellensurf.com.



>> WHITTIER CURRENTLY HAS SEVERAL BUDDING ENTREPRENEURS; AT LEAST TWO STUDENT BUSINESSES OPERATING LAST YEAR REPORTED REVENUES HITTING THE HALF-MILLION MARK.



STUDENT PRESENTS, WINS PRAISE AT HISTORY CONFERENCE

MAY, MICHELLE BIRTJA '08 trumped several competing undergraduate and graduate history scholars when her research paper was selected for presentation at the annual regional meeting of Phi Alpha Theta, the national history honorary society.



Borne out of an advanced course in historical research and writing at Whittier, Birtja's work, *Small Pox and Disease: Effects of Disease on Racial Divisions in Colonial America*, examines the differences in understanding medicine, religion, and culture between Native Americans and the white settlers. Concluding the presentation, Birtja was commended by the session moderator for her sophisticated understanding and use of primary sources.

"Michelle did an excellent job of situating her paper in a broader historiographical context, which truly made clear her original contribution to the scholarship," explains Robert Marks, Whittier professor of history. Within her work, she applied clear categories of analysis to develop her argument, using apt quotes to make her point."

OUR HOUSE, IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR STREET.

Designated for the Faculty Masters Program in 1991, Garrett House is named for Mary and Orval Garrett, parents of trustee and principal program donor Roberta Garrett Veloz '57.

GARRETT HOUSE WELCOMES NEW BLOOD

THEATRE PROFESSOR TAKES UP RESIDENCE AS NEW FACULTY MASTER



THIS FALL, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF THEATRE JENNIFER HOLMES took up her new post as faculty master for Garrett House. Holmes's programs revolve around four central and connected themes: Transforming Perspectives, Whittier Connections, The International Performance Series (TIPS), and College Knowledge.

Transforming Perspectives brings professionals-in-the-field to campus to actively engage with students, preferably in a hands-on, workshop setting. Talent tapped to date include authors in the Whittier Writers Festival, jazz musician Jennifer Lightman, and Fulbright Scholar Alanoud Alsharekh, a specialist in feminist literature in the Arab Middle East.

In Whittier Connections, faculty, students, and alumni come together for exchange of ideas and cultural perspective. Currently planned for this program, Hollywood film director and alumnus Arthur Allan Seidelman will present a Classic Film Series, and select faculty will discuss their research or host topical fireside chats.

The International Performance Series (TIPS) includes opportunities for research on performance of culture and everyday life, performances or masterclasses by international guest artists, and excursions to performances in the L.A. area.

Last, College Knowledge addresses topics that students "should" know about before they leave college, but might not necessarily learn in the classroom, encompassing anything and everything from salsa dancing to cinematic study, art history to pop culture.



NO GUTS, NO GLORY

Since the beginning of summer, visitors to campus have been greeted with the sights and sounds of construction, as contractor Millie & Severson, Inc. completely guts the previous Dexter Student Center to make way for the new—and quite posh—Campus Center. Along with the deconstruction, there has been the erection of a "sprung structure," resembling a large circus tent, which now houses the dining facilities and bookstore through the completion of the new structure.

>> TO STAY ABREAST OF THE CAMPUS CENTER PROJECT, VISIT WEB.WHITTIER.EDU/CAMPUSCENTER. PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING PROGRESS WILL BE UPDATED REGULARLY THROUGH COMPLETION.



SPOTLIGHT REPORT: THE CULTURAL CENTER

In late spring, the working model of the Cultural Center was essentially split into two parallel yet interconnected programs; Joy Hoffman (right) was hired as overall director for the Cultural Center programming and advising, while Luz Maria Galbreath (left) was appointed director of the Ortiz Programs. Talking candidly to The Rock, Hoffman and Galbreath discuss their ideas and aspirations for the future of this important campus program.

TR: So, what specific skills or history in your respective backgrounds are contributing to the success of this revised operational model?

JH: My experience is in programming, assessment, diversity training, and working with various minority populations, so this is a great fit for someone who represents a Cultural Center in general and is trying to build the department and programs. Luz has experience with broad populations and programming as well, so we make a great team; plus, her significant experience with Latino populations and families means she's a natural to oversee the Ortiz Programs.

LG: I have lived half my life in Mexico and the other half in the U.S., an experience that has helped me understand both sides of the coin, so to speak. I have come to know very well the idiosyncrasies of both cultures, and I can empathize with the struggles of new immigrants. Earning my bachelor's degree in Mexico and my master's degree in the U.S. has also helped me understand the differences in the educational systems of both countries, and being bilingual has proved very useful in communicating with the families of our first-generation Latino students.

JH: Having two, clear, interdependent programs is wonderful because it allows us both to do what we do best and serve minority students on a broad scale, while honoring the legacy of Martin Ortiz through the Ortiz Programs.

TR: What's the greatest challenge the Cultural Center currently faces to building and supporting programs?

LG: In my opinion, it's the perception that our programs are only for minority groups. I believe that through purposeful support of these underrepresented groups and the events they offer to the campus community throughout the year, we are not only opening the doors for our diverse students to connect more intimately with the mainstream population, but we are inviting ALL Whittier students to take part in our educational and social events. This process of reciprocal acculturation takes time, but it is definitely worth it. When we succeed in identifying the barriers for communication, we will truly begin to make progress.

TR: What programs do you plan to develop or reinstate over the coming year?

JH: I'd like to get the Minority Caucus stable again because I think there will be a domino effect among the participating cultural organizations and their respective programming. And I want the Caucus to be sustainable, which means there has to be significant student ownership.

LG: Some of the main events the Ortiz Programs supports and that we continue to build upon are the Spanish-language Orientation Session for parents and students, the Commuter Social, Hispanic Heritage Month, Day of the Dead, Brindis Navideno and Posada, Latino Graduation, Tardeada, and the alumni group, Alianza des los Amigos. Throughout



Photo by Ste

the year, we partner with Admissions in various ways and programs; we collaborate with Financial Aid to provide information and a workshop in Spanish; we support other departments like Career Services, Internships, and Office of Student Activities by involving our students in their projects. We receive visits from schools touring the campus, and our students have an opportunity to respond to their questions. This year, we will issue a parent newsletter in Spanish, and focus on increasing parent involvement.

JH: I am also looking to get more students involved in the community. Luz and I talked about bringing back the Folkloric Dance competition, which is an outreach program beyond just our campus. And I'd also like to grow our heritage month programs and market them effectively. In total, Whittier College and the Cultural Center need to be of the community, not just in the community.

TR: According to the website, the Cultural Center "collaborates with faculty to develop resources that expand the understanding of tolerance and cultural appreciation in the curriculum." Can you elaborate a bit on the nature of this collaboration, and give a specific example?

LG: Frequently, faculty members from various departments contact the Cultural Center looking for support and our collaboration to bring programs and activities that complement and enhance their courses—this could be through speakers, films, field trips, as well as classroom presentations and workshops.

¡VAYAMOS!

On November 18, the Friends of Martin Ortiz and Alianza des los Amigos will host a Scholarship Brunch. For more information on this event, please contact the Cultural Center, 562.907.4962.

>> THE FIRST EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH PREDOMINANTLY BLACK FISK UNIVERSITY IN NASHVILLE BEGAN IN 1952.



JH: For example, as part of our program last year and to support various interdisciplinary courses, we brought several speakers to campus to discuss race or religion. This was a win/win; faculty supported our events, we supported their instruction, and students got a tremendous learning opportunity.

TR: What do you see is your top priority for the year?

JH: I'd really like to do more assessment, so we can truly explore and "prove" the effectiveness of our programs and how they contribute to student learning. At some general level, too, I want to teach students how to create and assess learning outcomes for their programs. They need to know how meaningful this kind of interaction can be, and its impact within the community. I don't want these student organizations "programming just to program."

LG: The top priority for the Ortiz Programs is to address the needs of Latino students. In order to increase the academic success and satisfaction with their educational experience, we plan a multi-layered approach. First, we will expand programs that provide the students with assistance in planning their financial and career goals. Second, we will collaborate with faculty to develop co-curricular programs that enhance their academic learning. And third, we will partner with non-profit organizations to provide our students with an opportunity to serve the local community. In addition, we will offer programs and workshops for parents to strengthen their relationship with Whittier College and our partnership in their sons' and daughters' education.

TR: Any final thoughts?

JH: I think we are entering a new chapter with the Cultural Center, and we will only get better now having two full-time directors, and following new initiatives to train student leaders to create sustainable programs. Our greatest strength lies in what we can become.

SIGN HERE. ► Each year, a number of faculty and alumni professionals work to secure internships for Whittier students; as a result, our students have worked with prestigious organizations such as Major League Soccer's Los Angeles Galaxy, Sony Pictures Television, and Wall Street's Oppenheimer & Co.

INSIGHT FROM THE LIGHT

FROM EDISON INTERNSHIP STUDENT GAINS BRIGHT FUTURE

Toward completion of her degree in business administration, Denell Garcia '07 undertook an internship this spring with Southern California Edison's human resources division. Garcia emerged from the experience with a greater understanding of the corporate world—and a full-time job offer.

For Garcia's particular internship assignment, she had to become familiar with the process of employee training, verify training course completions, and assist the Ethics & Compliance team. Her duties encompassed everything from learning the PeopleSoft program and tracking enrollments for ethics training classes, to scanning evaluations and assisting in researching and coordinating professional skills and knowledge development courses offered through the HR division. She was able to enhance her computer skills, becoming familiar with key software programs, many of which were new to her, but most of which are universally used throughout corporate operations. She also was able to work on her "follow-through skills," such as monitoring, proofreading, filing, and meeting deadlines.

"In my *Management and Organization Behavior* class at Whittier, I learned that the fundamentals of an organization center on relationships and contributions, and about the politics involved in working in the corporate world. After my internship, seeing many of these theories in action, I've come to realize that it pays not only to be a good worker, but to network; fellow employees were more willing to help if I had a good rapport with them. I also learned that corporations look to hire employees who will contribute ideas and thoughts, ultimately creating or raising organizational value," says Garcia.

When her internship ended, Garcia was offered and accepted an entry-level position to begin immediately following graduation. So this June, she returned to Southern California Edison—this time as a full-time employee—with a goal to further focus on HR training programs development, and to gain more overall knowledge and experience toward a career in corporate human resources.

EDIFICATION THROUGH APPLICATION

Each semester and into summer, college students compete for work internships in just about every type of business and field, paid and unpaid, and in places geographically scattered about the country. In 200 more than 30 organizations awarded internships to Whittier students, including:

- **ADELIN RECORDS** (independent music label), Los Angeles, CA
- **NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF STATE** (governmental accountability), New York, New York
- **A.B.S. BY ALLEN SCHWARTZ** (fashion house), Los Angeles, CA
- **CLEAR CHANNEL COMMUNICATIONS** (broadcast entertainment), Seattle, WA
- **FIRST HERITAGE BANK** (business and personal finances), Newport Beach, CA
- **LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** (political offices), Los Angeles, CA
- **SERIOUS USA** (digital entertainment products), New York, New York
- **DALLAS CONTEMPORARY MUSEUM** (arts management), Dallas, TX
- **AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION** (energy trade association/advocate), Washington, D.C.
- **HARRAH'S HOTEL & CASINO** (hospitality and gaming), South Lake Tahoe, CA
- **WALDEN MEDIA** (film production), Los Angeles, CA

>> IF YOU'D LIKE TO MATCH A WHITTIER STUDENT WITH AN INTERNSHIP AT YOUR COMPANY, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF INTERNSHIPS & INTERNATIONAL STUDY, 562.464.4533.



ROCK TALK

While pleased with progress made during the women's lacrosse spring season, Head Coach **EMILY FREY** remains focused on moving her team toward the brass ring: a conference title.

"THE GOAL IS NOT JUST TO HANG WITH CMS, REDLANDS, OR ANY OTHER TEAM; THE GOAL IS TO BEAT THEM...AND WITH FOCUS AND DEDICATION, WE WILL DO THAT. I KNOW WE WILL."

In an open invitation to celebrate a candlelight vigil at the Rock, ASWC President **ADAM STEINBAUGH '08** makes a somber statement of solidarity with the students and victims of the deadly shootings at Virginia Tech.

"TODAY, POETS ARE HOKIES."



▼ **FINDING THE POWER WITHIN.** Assistant Professor of Chinese **George de Roza '78** teaches a weekly class in Tai Chi on the lawn in front of Deihl Hall.

LAST CALL...
ALMOST. Friends and colleagues of sociology professor Les Howard throw a "semi-retirement" party in June, celebrating Howard's years of service and move toward the faculty designation of Special Senior Status.



▲ **IT'S JUST BUSINESS.** L. Mercer Borden IV '91, managing director for Optima Fund Management, speaks to a select group of students as part of the Lessons on Leadership series.

Los Angeles Times reporter **TONY PERRY**, a guest lecturer in *Introduction to Journalism*, relates his experiences—both grim and graphic—as an embedded journalist with the U.S. Marines, covering the war in Iraq.

"I'VE BEEN TO HEBEFA. IT'S HELL ON EARTH, WHERE PEOPLE TRY TO KILL YOU."

Returning from the Associated Collegiate Press National Conference, *QC* columnist **LAUREN STRACNER '08** avidly argues against implied "rules" that prevent the newspaper staff from freely tackling more controversial, less popular topics.

"LITTLE DO YOU ALL KNOW HOW MUCH WE GO OUT OF OUR WAY TO TRY AND BE THE BEARERS OF PERFECTLY STAUNCH, UNBIASED MEDIA NEWS COVERAGE... ALMOST EVERY ISSUE, WE FIND SOMETHING THAT MUST BE TIPTOED AROUND IN ORDER TO AVOID OFFENDING ANYONE."

DANIELLE HARMON '10 recalls getting a taste of Hollywood glam while attending her first Luminarias. The annual spring formal was held this year at the historic Roosevelt Hotel, and coincided with another hotel event, a party given by recording artist Jessica Simpson. According to the *QC*, a few students did more than spot famous folk, they chatted with them—including celebs Adam Levine (Maroon 5), Taryn Manning, Clive Owen, and Eva Longoria.

"AT ONE POINT, I LOOKED OVER AND MADE EYE CONTACT WITH LEONARDO DI CAPRIO."

▼ **STAGES OF COURTSHIP.** Student actors Matt Calloway '08 and Kelsey Marie Wuornos '07 play out a scene from the controversial "Stop Kiss," the final production in the Theatre Department's 2006-07 season.



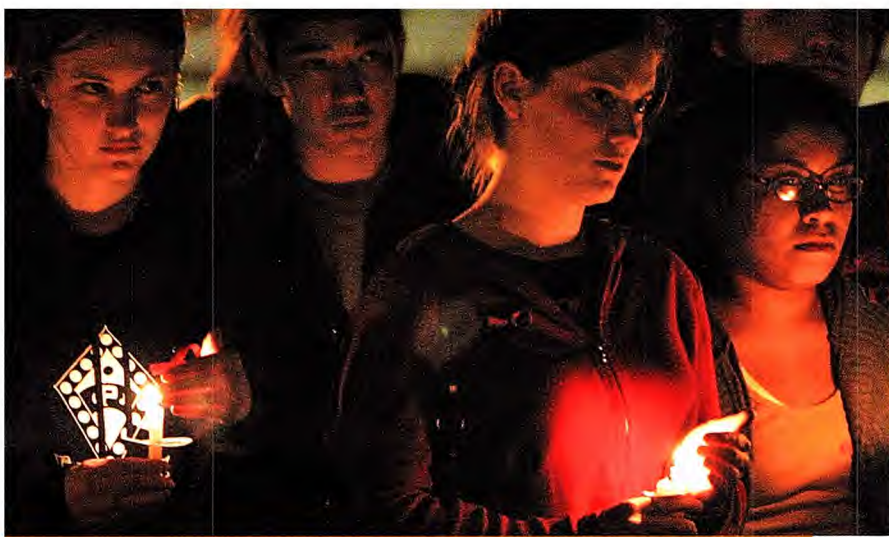
NICOLE SCHMIDT '08, organizer and driving force behind the Greens of Whittier Club, talks about the club's intention to plant and tend a community garden of edible vegetation on the hillside between Wanberg and Harris Residence Halls.

"IT BEGAN WITH MY FIRST COLLEGE RESEARCH PAPER [IN SOCIOLOGY]...AFTER THAT, THE IDEA JUST KIND OF GREW, AND LAST YEAR, I STARTED ASKING THE SCHOOL FOR A PLOT OF DIRT."

In a *Quaker Campus* interview, NEH grant-winner and Professor of History **ROBERT MARKS** discusses plans for his new book, *An Environmental History of China*, and just how far back in time his text may commence.

"I'D LIKE TO START WITH THE DINOSAURS—GO BACK TO THE JURASSIC. I MEAN, WHY NOT? THAT'S WHEN INDIA SLAMMED INTO ASIA, CREATED THE HIMALAYAS, CAUSED ALL THE MAJOR RIVERS TO RUN EAST, RAISED TIBET. YOU KNOW, STUFF LIKE THAT."

>> COMPETING IN THE TELEVISED GENERAL ELECTRIC COLLEGE BOWL QUIZ SHOW IN THE 1960s, WHITTIER'S TEAM EMERGED A FIVE-WEEK CHAMPION, WINNING \$10,500 IN SCHOLARSHIP PRIZE MONEY.



Photos by Paul Gallaher '07, Steve Burns, Barney Peake.



◀ **HAND IT OVER.**
Volunteer Josefin Campos '08 helps to organize and clean a local senior center library, during the College's annual Helping Hands Day.

MEMORIAM. More than 100 students gathered at the Rock for a candlelight vigil memorating the lives lost at Virginia Tech in April. The stone icon was temporarily painted orange and maroon, and sported the VT logo.

L. MERCER BORDEN IV '91 offers students attending the Lessons on Leadership Series perspective on the origins and development of company culture.

"IN ALL CASES, IT STARTS WITH THE HEAD PERSON AND PERMEATES DOWN."

In a *QC* editorial from abroad, **LAUREN CAMACHO '08** relates some very personal and unanticipated challenges she faced while taking part in a semester-abroad program in France.

"I HAVE THIS LOVE-HATE RELATIONSHIP WITH PARIS. SOMETIMES, I LOOK AROUND AND GET GIDDY. I THINK IT'S PHENOMENAL. OTHER TIMES, I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT I'M DOING HERE."

MICHELE LOWEY '09 recounts her Spring Break experience at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference, where she both gave a professional presentation—along with her Whittier research team led by Professor Anne Sebanc—and met her "academic idol," Nikki Crick.

"I WAS STAR STRUCK...IT WAS PROBABLY THE GEEKIEST EXPERIENCE OF MY LIFE, BUT SHE IS THE RELATIONAL AGGRESSION GURU IN THE WORLD OF PSYCHOLOGY, AND I CITE HER IN ALMOST ALL OF MY PAPERS."

At the close of **DIVERSE IDENTITIES WEEK**, a *QC* editorial calls for a shift in College thought, away from "race" as a distinguishing factor, but rather toward "culture."

"THE LONGER WE CONTINUE TO YAMMER ABOUT THE CONCEPT OF RACE—EVEN IN A POSITIVE SENSE—THE LONGER IT WILL STUBBORNLY ENDURE IN OUR SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS."

Director of Career Services **LINDA ROSS** offers practical tips and a candid take on job-hunting in a regular column for the *QC*.

"UNLESS YOU ARE INTERVIEWING WITH YOUR FAVORITE AUNT OR UNCLE, DON'T EXPECT [A PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER] WILL CAREFULLY HELP YOU EXPLORE YOUR WORTH OR GIVE YOU THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT WHEN YOU FLOUNDER FOR A GOOD ANSWER TO THEIR QUESTION."

Just before the start of the Poets 17-6 win against Colorado, lacrosse player **DAVE GERBARG '07** expresses his relief at the team's return to their home field after vandalism had previously prohibited the advantage.

"IT MAKES A HUGE DIFFERENCE, BEING IN THE CAGE."

Director of the Cultural Center **JOY HOFFMAN** explains the profusion of green wristbands distributed and worn by students in activist group **STAND** (Students Taking Action Now: Darfur).

"THESE ARE NOT WORN AS A MEDAL OR MEANS OF RECOGNITION, BUT RATHER SO THAT PEOPLE WILL ASK, LEARN ABOUT THE ACTION OUR STUDENTS ARE TAKING, AND BE INFORMED ABOUT THE CRISIS IN DARFUR."

MUSICAL ENSEMBLE. ▶

Choir director and music professor **Steven Cook** advocates a more informal choir uniform for an impromptu spring concert, which featured students from both the College and Broad Oaks.



◀ **LIFT OFF.**

A competitor hits the jump and finds air in front of the old Wardman Gym at this year's Snow Jam festival, coordinated by the Ski & Snowboard Club.

>>> PERHAPS A G-RATED PRECURSOR TO TODAY'S EROTIC CITY, THE "PAJAMA JUMP" DANCE ATTRACTED HOARDS OF WHITTIER STUDENTS IN 1950—THOUGH ALL APPAREL WAS THOROUGHLY SCRUTINIZED AT THE DOOR.



MISSION SO POSSIBLE

Instituted last fall, every meeting of the Inter-Society Council begins with a recitation by each society member of their respective group's creed, serving as a reminder that while the individual organizations are unique in character, the true purpose of this collective body remains comparable. Following are the society statements:

ATHENIAN SOCIETY

The ladies of the Athenian Society are a distinguished group of women whose activities emphasize sisterhood, social events, service to the community, and scholarship. Members are involved in a wide array of activities on and off campus and share the common strong bond of sisterhood.

FRANKLIN SOCIETY

The Franklin Society, founded in 1921, was the earliest Whittier College fraternity. The purpose of the fraternity is to perpetuate life-long friendships by developing well-rounded character in its members, and encouraging self-expression, leadership, individuality, and above all, a successful brotherhood.

IONIAN SOCIETY

"Individually Unique, Together Complete," Ionians pride themselves on sisterhood, giving back to the community, building leadership, and promoting the individual. Ionians celebrate their differences and work together as a whole.

LANCER SOCIETY

The Lancer Society seeks to represent the true spirit of Whittier College, to publicize it abroad, to instill the motive of service without desire for reward, to carry on social and cultural programming, to be helpful to new students, and to create and maintain activities for the betterment of the students and the College.



GOODBYE TO PENNS AND PENCILS.

William Penn Donato Clay '07 flashes the thumbs-up sign to his society brothers and family in the stands, immediately after taking possession of his diploma.

METAPHONIAN SOCIETY

Established in 1924, the Metaphonian Society takes pride in its diversity and very close sisterhood. Besides past local service projects—such as working at the AIDS Quilt Display and at the McLaren's School for underprivileged and abused children—the Mets started a library in Honduras, which is supported each year with funds raised through an annual car wash. Mets sisterhood lasts a lifetime.

ORTHOGONIAN SOCIETY

The mission of the Orthogonian Society is to provide an environment for individuals who are striving to reach their full potential, in the fields of academics, athletics, and personal growth, while taking on various responsibilities that provide services for our school and the community. In the process of accomplishing different goals, Orthogonians will display wholehearted values such as: giving 100 percent to every task we pursue, demonstrating the true meaning of brotherhood, being true to ourselves, working smarter and harder, taking advantage of strength and improving upon weaknesses, and venturing through life with a heart full of bravery.

PALMER SOCIETY

The mission of the Palmer Society is to attain the highest ideals of American womanhood by promoting a spirit of friendship and



MET-APHORICALLY SPEAKING. More likely a completely literal message from one Met goes out to her parents during the 2007 Commencement Ceremony on May 25.

>> ESTABLISHED AS A MEN'S SOCIETY IN 1948, THE SACHSENS DECIDED TO GO CO-ED IN 1971, AND REPORTED THE LARGEST MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS THROUGHOUT THE 1970s.



Photos by Steve Burns

◀ **PROMOTING
"UN-GREEK-ISH"
BEHAVIORS.**

Inter-Society Council Co-chair and Athenian President **Malysa Robison '08** displays a T-shirt that bears the selected Society theme of the year past and year ahead—that Whittier's Society life is not about inter-competitiveness, but rather about developing a cohesive community and achieving Inter-Society Harmony (ISH).

cooperation; developing aesthetic appreciation within the society and others; giving service to the community; remaining loyal to one another and to self; and striving to maintain high academic standards.

WILLIAM PENN SOCIETY

The William Penn Society is an organization made up of individuals with many different talents, backgrounds, and personalities. The Penns encourage diversity and believe in strength through individuality. The society provides opportunities for service and for social and personal growth.

SACHSEN SOCIETY

The Sachsen Society, founded in the 1940s by soldiers who served in Sachsenberg, Germany, emphasizes the unique individualities of its members. By celebrating the commonality of individuals regardless of their sex, the Sachsens seek to promote friendship and goodwill among the student body. In 1972, the Sachsen Society began

allowing women to join the group—the first organization of its type to do so.

THALIAN SOCIETY

"Chance has made us sisters. Hearts made us friends." The Thalian Society is composed of a large and diverse group of women who share a sisterhood and an everlasting bond of friendship. Each individual woman has something unique to bring to the society.

WHITTIER WEEKEND SOCIETY REUNION BRUNCHES

Saturday, October 27

- ▶ **Sachsens**
10:30 a.m., Radisson Whittier Hotel
- ▶ **Lancers**
10:30 a.m., Wardman House
- ▶ **Thalians**
10:30 a.m., Radisson Whittier Hotel, Ballroom C
- ▶ **Palmers**
10:30 a.m., Garrett House
- ▶ **Metaphonians**
10:30 a.m., Dattilo Restaurant, Uptown Whittier
- ▶ **Ionians**
10:30 a.m., Hartley House
- ▶ **Athenians**
10:30 a.m., Marie Callender's Restaurant and Bakery, 9829 La Serna Dr.
- ▶ **Orthogonians**
10:30 a.m., The Orthogonian House, 12507 Whitby St., Whittier
- ▶ **Franklins**
10:30 a.m., El Cholo Restaurant, 840 E. Whittier Blvd.
- ▶ **William Penns**
TBD



Photo by Paul Gallaher '07

ROCK ON, BROTHER, ROCK ON.

Sachsens Woody Frank '10, Jonathon Plaut '10 and Ron Price '08 (left to right) take the stage at the Spring Festival. The aptly named "Sachsen Band" was among several campus musical acts to perform for the crowd amassed on the Upper Quad, following the annual service event Helping Hands Day, which took place last April.

>> A 20-YEAR FUNDRAISING EFFORT BY THE LANCERS BROUGHT IN HALF THE COST OF CONSTRUCTION FOR MEMORIAL CHAPEL, WHICH OPENED IN 1961.



DOUBLE PLAY

IN AUGUST, two religious studies department faculty were appointed to endowed professorships: Marilyn Gottschall was named the C. Milo Connick Professor in Religion, and Joseph Price was named the Genevieve Shaul Connick Professor in Religious Studies—a new professorship, established this summer as part of a bequest from the C. Milo Connick estate.

For more than five decades, C. Milo Connick was a veritable legend at Whittier College. Having taught in the department of philosophy and religion for 36 years and served on the Board of Trustees for nearly 20, the biblical scholar and ordained minister was a well-known and well-respected figure around campus and in the community. Connick retired from Whittier's faculty 25 years ago, but his devotion and philanthropic connection to the College remained steadfast until his death earlier this year.

The C. Milo Connick Professorship in Religion was created in 1982, endowed by a few of his former students and colleagues; the criteria encompasses distinguished scholarship and teaching in the field of religion. Recipient Marilyn Gottschall is an avid world-traveler who has served in the Peace Corps and has taught at Whittier since 1996. She holds a doctorate in social ethics from USC and a master's in social work from Carleton University in Canada.

Established in 2007 and named for Connick's widow, the Genevieve Shaul Connick Professor in Religious Studies is designated for a highly qualified scholar in the fields of Christian thought and biblical literature. Currently writing a book on Christian theologian Paul Tillich, inaugural appointee Joseph Price has taught at Whittier since 1982. He holds a Ph.D. and A.M. from the University of Chicago Divinity School, and a master's in divinity from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.



SOCIAL STUDIES: ANNE SEBANC INVESTIGATES THE INFLUENCE

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT ANNE SEBANC is convinced that a local community can be a critical laboratory—a platform that likely helped her win a substantial grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) in 2005. Now entering the final year of her multi-year NSF project, Sebanc finds herself fully engulfed in a comprehensive study on friendships and the influence they exert during the transition from elementary to middle school, particularly among Latino students in a nearby school district.

“Moving from elementary to middle school is stressful for most students, so understanding what happens during this time may lead to insight about how to foster an easier transition,” she says, explaining the basis and goal for her project.

According to Sebanc, past related research clearly demonstrates that children who develop quality friendships tend to do better in school, though the data have predominantly come from observation of white, middle-class children. Interested in drawing experience from the differing



TEACHER'S AID. Working on her NSF grant project, Anne Sebanc helps a research participant complete a survey at Magee Elementary School.

>> IN 1895, THE FIRST TWO WOMEN WERE APPOINTED TO THE ACADEMIC FACULTY. ONE TAUGHT SCIENCE, MATH, LATIN AND GREEK; THE OTHER TAUGHT ENGLISH, GERMAN, AND ELOCUTION.

F FRIENDSHIP

demographics and socio-economics that characterize local Whittier communities, however, Sebanc has focused her project primarily on Latino students enrolled in the El Rancho district schools in Pico Rivera, and whether or not similar aspects of friendship can predict positive adjustment to middle school.

Taking on a multi-year study has meant not only a significant professional commitment, but securing a great deal of involvement from and cooperation with school administrators and teachers, as well as the students themselves. Too, a handful of Whittier undergraduates, who contribute to the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data, are getting an outstanding opportunity to participate in a professional study—an experience that at many other institutions, Sebanc notes, is typically restricted to graduate students.

In fact, she adds with pride, her most recent paper, “Predicting Having a Best Friend in Young Children: Individual Characteristics and Friendship Features,” was co-authored by three recent Whittier alums and was published in the *Journal of Genetic Psychology*.

Sebanc’s NSF multi-year award exceeds \$175,000 and is slated to end in 2008. Until then, she and her team will continue to amass data, present their findings at academic conferences, and write for publication.

However, she anticipates her work will not end there.

“The principals with whom I work are excited to know more about which students adjust well to middle school and why. Ultimately, I’m hoping that what we learn now will help more children succeed in schools locally—and overall.”

◀ GRANT GROUP.

Sebanc isn’t the only Whittier prof to receive a multi-year grant from the National Science Foundation. Other current awardees include Devin Iiomoto, professor of chemistry, and Glenn Piner, associate professor of physics and astronomy—the latter having just received a second NSF award to continue his research in the study of blazars.

MORRIS TAKES NERHOOD

KNOWN FOR OCCASIONALLY CHEERING “Five points to Gryffindore!” when one of his students answers a question correctly, Associate Professor of English Language and Literature Sean Morris was no surprise as this year’s recipient of the Harry W. Nerhood Teaching Excellence Award.

In his own studies, Morris has specialized in medieval languages and literature. But his unorthodox approach to the more obscure literature of those times has led him to create courses like *Robin Hood, Then and Now* and *East Meets West: Medieval England*. Particularly drawn to the literary device of the “epic hero’s journey,” Morris recently wrote a screenplay and stage version of *Beowulf*, the latter presented—and well received—on the Shannon Center mainstage last spring, performed by members of the drama department. Last fall, Morris and associate professor of psychology Lori Camparo also teamed up to give a lecture on J.K. Rowling’s *Harry Potter* novels, exploring both the literary and psychological aspects of the title character’s journey, both professors notably clad as wizards.

“It seems that he can make the most dull and strange reading enjoyable and comprehensible,” read one Morris nomination, while another noted he is “always around for a friendly conversation about science fiction-related subjects; just take a look at his office decked out in Lord of the Rings, Star Wars, and Star Trek keepsakes and posters.”

A graduate of Vassar College and Stony Brook University in New York, Morris has been teaching at Whittier since 2000. Morris will take a sabbatical in spring 2008 and plans to work on his own creative fiction.

Named in honor of longtime history professor Harry Nerhood, the award recognizes creative and talented professors who are not only learned, but who also inspire students with their teaching. Nominated by both peers and students, Morris received the award during the annual Honors Convocation ceremony in May.



>> IN THE 1940s, A FACULTY MEMBER WAS ASSIGNED TO THE ENTRY OF THE CAMPUS INN, TO ENSURE FEMALE STUDENTS HAD APPROPRIATE SKIRT LENGTHS AND THAT ALL MEN SPORTED TIES.



ONWARD AND UPWARD

FACULTY TRAVELS, PUBLISHING, AND AWARDS

► Professor of Political Science **JOYCE KAUFMAN** was among 11 scholars from schools around the country to receive an American Political Society of America (APSA) 2007 Small Research Grant. Designed to support investigation into all fields of political science, the APSA grant is only open to faculty in non-PhD granting institutions and carries a maximum award of \$2500. On sabbatical this fall, Kaufman will travel to Northern Ireland to conduct research for her winning project proposal, *What Happened to the Women? Women's Political Activism in Northern Ireland Pre- and Post- the Belfast Agreement*.



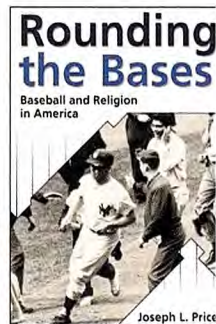
▲ Professor of Spanish **RAFAEL CHABRAN** continued his research on medical professionals, completing a chapter on Dr. Francisco Hernandez for the *Dictionary of Medical Biography*. This was the second project Chabran undertook regarding Hernandez, a Spanish-born physician who journeyed to Mexico to research the region's natural history. In 2000, Chabran also helped translate *The Mexican Treasury, The Writings of Dr. Francisco Hernandez* for publication.

► Assistant Librarian and Archivist **JOE DMOHOWSKI'S** article "Jessamyn West and the Making of Friendly Persuasion" was the cover story for the June issue of *Friends Bulletin*, a leading regional magazine that covers Quaker-related topics of spirituality, social activism, poetry, art, news, and views. The culmination of a research project, Dmohowski's piece chronicles the story behind the conversion of Jessamyn West's first and most popular work, *The Friendly Persuasion* (1945), into a Hollywood film of the same name, nearly a decade later. The

film's director/producer, William Wyler, initially hired West only as a technical advisor, but later proposed she write the full screenplay. In his examination, Dmohowski describes West's screenplay work, as well as the role of Quaker pacifism within the film.

► Associate Professor of Spanish **DOREEN O'CONNOR-GOMEZ** presented her research paper *Spectacle and Violence: Immigration in Spain Today* at the 89th Annual Conference of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, held in San Diego in late summer.

► **JOSEPH PRICE**, professor of religious studies, presented "Touching the Bases in Baseball and Faith" at the annual meeting of the American Culture Association in Boston, and gave a talk on "The National Anthem for the National Pastime" at a local chapter of the P.E.O. and the Whittier YMCA. His recent book, *Rounding the Bases*, which examines the intersection of sports and religion, garnered Price an invitation to speak at both the Ted Williams Chapter of the Society for American Baseball Research, and at the opening of the exhibition "Baseball and Whittier" at the Whittier Public Library. Price's text was recently reviewed by *Congregational Libraries Today*, which reported "Author Price rounds the allegorical bases of the big leagues...the metaphorical equations [he] establishes are...thought provoking and enlightening."



► **BILL GEIGER '62**, professor of English language and literature, was a panel member at a National Social Science Association conference focusing on western civilization. Geiger contributed his expertise as a published author on 19th century imperialism, European thought in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and the rise of totalitarianism.

► Associate Professor of Biology **CHERYL SWIFT** presented her research on *Water Relations of Selected Fynbos Species* at the annual meeting of the South African Association of Botanists in Cape Town. Swift was a visiting scientist last spring at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa, and her research seeks to identify differences in drought tolerance among tree species typical to streamside vegetation.

Photos by Steve Burns, Rich Creatham

>> AMONG THE SEVEN MAJORS OFFERED AT WHITTIER IN 1904 WERE "LANGUAGE & MATH" AND "PHYSICS & OTHER SCIENCES."

NOTED & QUOTED



Associate Professor of Physics and Astronomy **GLENN PINER** is featured in a filmed segment in *The Universe*, a 13-hour series produced by The History Channel. Piner, who made a groundbreaking discovery last year regarding blazar jets traveling close to the speed of light, was interviewed on-camera about a variety of celestial topics including planets, black holes, and quasars. The series was broadcast throughout summer and will be made available for purchase in October.

Professor of Political Science **FRED BERGERSON** explained the role of committees in the House of Representatives in the article "Area Gains Muscle in Congress," published in a local daily, *San Gabriel Valley Tribune*.



The latest research on the growth dynamics of pentacene, the leading candidate for organic electronics, by Assistant Professor of Physics **SERKAN ZORBA**, was published in *Science Daily*.



In a feature story for Fox News, **CHARLES T. HILL**, noted relationship expert and professor of psychology, considered advice proffered in new book *Better Single Than Sorry*, written by a former contestant on TV's "The Bachelor." Hill's review centered on the author's primary message, which suggests that when it comes to relationships, "settling" should not be an option.

For an article in the *San Gabriel Valley Tribune*, **JOSE OROZCO**, associate professor of history, contributed his thoughts on the ethics behind RateMyProfessors.com, a website that reviews the performance of educators.



Professor of English **TONY BARNSTONE** was among several poets to commemorate National Poetry Month by reading from their original works in Los Angeles' downtown, historic Union Station, during regular traffic hours. Notably, several busy commuters paused in their paths to listen to the unexpected literary fare, and a reporter from NBC4 captured Barnstone on film in a news segment that aired on local stations.



JOURNEY THROUGH SPIRITUAL LANDS

PROFESSOR WINS FELLOWSHIP FOR MIDDLE EASTERN RESEARCH



AWARDED A FULBRIGHT-HAYS FACULTY RESEARCH ABROAD FELLOWSHIP this past spring, Marilyn Gottschall, associate professor of religious studies, headed for summer study in the Middle East.

Over July and August, Gottschall joined fellow educa-

tors on the scheduled trip through Egypt and Israel to examine contemporary aspects of culture, economics, and politics. She attended seminars and educational tours, while conducting research on the religious traditions of minority groups in both nations.

"My curriculum project examines the way textbooks approach the study of religion," Gottschall said. "When teaching about religion, you tend to teach with a broad brush. My hope is that the results of my project will offer students an appreciation for the diversity of religions in these two countries."

Her Israeli base was Bar-Ilan University in Tel Aviv; while there, she explored different dimensions of Jewish identity in Israel with a particular emphasis on Mizrahi Jews—Arab Jews who never left the Middle East. In Egypt, she preferred to be more mobile, traveling throughout the country to conduct research on the country's Sufi tradition, her particular area of interest.

Throughout her tenure at Whittier College, Gottschall has explored feminism and theology, goddess worship, and now Islam. This was her first visit to Egypt and Israel, and she returned to campus, eager to tailor her instruction so she could "speak from firsthand knowledge."

TEACHING FROM EXPERIENCE. At first glance, Gottschall's fall courses may not seem directly related to her Middle Eastern travel—she's teaching *Global Ethics and Religious Diversity in America*—but she does plan to incorporate her new impressions and targeted study into the Whittier classroom, and in her work as newly appointed C. Milo Connick Professor of Religious Studies (see p. 14).

>> APPOINTED IN 1955, THE FIRST WHITTIER COLLEGE CHAPLAIN WAS ROBERT BOBIN—A METHODIST PASTOR.



SPORTS WRAP

SPRING SEASON WRAP



LAUNCH. ▶

Catherine Gouge '08 catapults upward from the water in the SCIAC home opener against La Verne. Final tally: Poets 12, Cougars 8.

The 2007 Whittier College **women's water polo** team finished the season with their fifth straight double-digit win total under departing Head Coach Mitch Carty, going 12-16 overall and 5-5 in conference play. The Poets charged into their season taking three of their first five games, followed by big wins over UC-Santa Cruz, Iona University, and St. Francis University at the Lancer Invitational. Heading into the regular SCIAC season, the Lady Poets went 3-4 in the conference and fifth seed in the 2007 SCIAC Championships. They lost their first round game to Cal Lutheran, but bounced back to win the final two games of the season: first against Caltech in the Consolation Semifinals, then against Occidental in the Consolation Finals.

Photos by Paul Gallaher '07

Men's golf finished seventh in the SCIAC standings, but completed their season with a couple of strong conference game performances. In a tournament held at Los Serranos, the Poets shot a team total 333, led by Wes Carty '07, who shot a three over par for a 77, good for 17th place overall. At the same event, teammate Tim Fanning '07 shot an 83, placing 32nd.

Ending with a 2-5 conference record, **women's track and field** finished seventh in the SCIAC but the highlight of their season came through individual performance seen during the conference championship meet, hosted by Whittier College in late April. Five Lady Poets

DEFEND. ▶

Dave Barr '09 eyeballs the field, as Colorado College takes a brutal, 17-6 beating.



earned conference honors in seven events at the meet: high jump, shot put, hammer throw, javelin, pole vault, the 1500 meter run, and 100 meter hurdles. Four-year standout Dana Allen '07 took home her first SCIAC Championship in the latter event, and the total number of Lady Poets honored by SCIAC this season is equal to the combined total from the Poets previous two seasons.

The 2007 **men's track and field** team finished seventh in the SCIAC standings this season, despite going 0-7 at the SCIAC Multi Duals hosted by Pomona-Pitzer on April 14. A strong performance at the SCIAC Championships catapulted the Poets past Caltech in the conference overall standings. Two Poets, Chris Gartrell '08 and John Morely '07, earned All-SCIAC honors in three events, the best

overall and 3-7 in the SCIAC, one of the toughest conferences in Division III. Their sixth place finish in the conference is the team's best in over a decade, and profoundly sweetened by conference wins against La Verne and Caltech, two teams that swept the Poets in 2006. Not surprisingly, the team received the 2007 SCIAC Sportsmanship Award, an honor voted on by the SCIAC coaches.

A great deal of the Poets' success in 2007 is due to the addition of Sean Robertson '10 and Justin DeLong '10, the latter named Whittier College Male Athlete of the Year. The duo made up the team's number one and two players, and paired up to be the leading doubles team.



SOAR. Event winner Dana Allen '07 effortlessly sails over the hurdles series in the SCIAC Championship meet, held at Whittier in April.

showing from the team in three years. Gartrell led the men with a pair of second place finishes in the 100 and 200 meter dashes, and his time in of 11.01 in the championship prelims was just .5 seconds behind the Whittier College record that has stood since 1979. In the 200, Gartrell was just .01 seconds behind the first place finisher.

The **men's tennis** team had one of the most successful seasons in the program's recent history. The Poets finished 6-19

The bright spot this season in **women's tennis** was the definite signs of overall team improvement, and a standout performance by Viktoriya Soshina '07. Battling through a winless season, the Poets proved to be scrappy and determined competitors during the SCIAC Championships, deftly avoiding shutouts to La Verne and Cal Lutheran.

Men's lacrosse finished their season with a 3-7 record, amassing wins against formidable NCAA Division III teams from Elmira, Colorado, and Goucher Colleges, as well as club teams from Chico State

CHARGE. ▲

akely Rice '10 travels at G-force speeds during a match against University of the Pacific.

>> STAY CONNECTED TO POET SPORTS SCORES, GAME SCHEDULES, AND ROAD TRIPS BY CHECKING WWW.WCPOETS.COM OR CALLING THE SPORTS HOTLINE, 562.907.4939.



◀ **FIRE.** Poised for action, Robbie Smith '08 watches for an opening in a tight game against Pomona-Pitzer. The Poets squeaked by on a 2-1 win.

and Chapman University. Twice the Poets faced off against Division II Notre Dame de Namur, and twice they lost by only one goal in the final minutes of the game.

Attackman Anthony Lackey '09, one of the season's leading offensive players, finished the season ranked fourth in the nation in points-per-game (5.3), seventh in assists-per-game, and 16th in goals-per-game. Team captain Dave Gerbag '07 likewise ranked among the Division III best in scoring, finishing the season ninth in points-per-game (4.7) and tied for seventh with Lackey in assists-per-game (2.3).

The **women's lacrosse** team went 4-11 this year, giving them the most wins for the program since 2003, and following two consecutive winless seasons. Trumped competitors this season were Marymount, Pacific University (twice), and the University of Dallas.

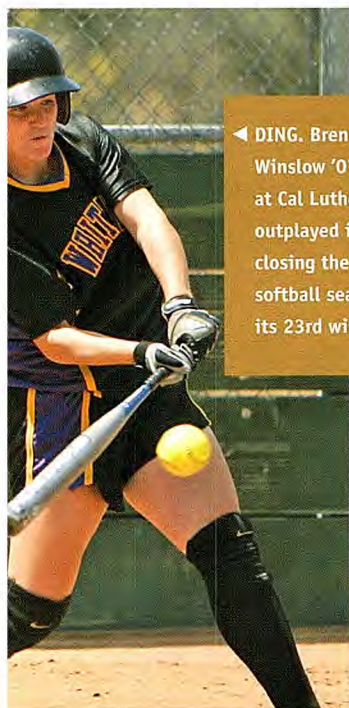
Leading the team's offense was Emily Mukai '10, who had 23 goals and six assists, and Kourtney Sexauer '08 with 22 goals

and two assists. Defensively, goalkeeper Jessica Ferrell '09 had a solid season, averaging more than 10 saves-per-game.

Enjoying their greatest success in 20 years, **women's softball** closed out the season with a 23-17 overall record, and a 12-12 SCIAC record, good for fourth place in the conference. The 23 wins signify a solid third place in the program's history, behind 30 wins in 1986, and 26 in 1987. Out of 403 teams in NCAA Division III, the Poets were ranked among the Top 50 for batting average (.337), doubles-per-game (1.73), and double plays-per-game (.33).

Newcomer Mary Pacheco '10 quickly emerged as this season's star, setting three single-season records with a .489 batting average, 67 total hits, and 19 doubles en route to the SCIAC Rookie of the Year Award. Pacheco was ranked sixth in the nation in doubles-per-game, and 16th in batting average. Lone senior and Team MVP Brenna Winslow '07 finished her final season batting .417, leaving Whittier College as the all-time leader in both doubles (29) and games played (154).

Men's baseball team finished the season 17-23, and 11-10 in SCIAC play, earning them fifth place in conference. This season was marred by numerous injuries, most notably the loss of centerfielder Charles Acker '08, who tore his ACL six games into the season. However, the final game for the Poets this year ended with a thrilling 3-2, 11-inning victory over rival La Verne, firmly shutting the door on the ULV Leos post-season hopes. Whittier will return 30 lettermen next season, but for the graduating seniors, the victory over La Verne was a fitting way to end their collegiate careers.



◀ **DING.** Brenna Winslow '07 swings at Cal Lutheran's outplayed infield, closing the Poet softball season on its 23rd win.

INDIVIDUAL POET ACHIEVEMENTS

FOR THE SPRING SEASON, 19 POET ATHLETES AND ONE POET TEAM EARNED A GRAND TOTAL OF 26 HONORS AT ALL LEVELS OF COLLEGE COMPETITION.

NATIONAL HONORS

- ▶ 2nd Team All-American in Women's Water Polo: **Karley Perine '08** (utility)
- ▶ All-American in Women's Track & Field: **Shuree Gangloff '09** (discus throw)

REGIONAL HONORS

- ▶ 2nd Team All-West Region in Softball: **Mary Pacheco '10** (outfield)
- ▶ 3rd Team All-West Region in Baseball: **Matt Morgado '08** (1st base, designated hitter)
- ▶ 3rd Team All-West Region in Softball: **Brenna Winslow '07** (1st base, centerfield)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE HONORS

MEN'S TEAMS

Baseball

- ▶ 1st Team All-SCIAC: **Ryan Martin '08** (short stop), **Thomas Phelps '09** (pitcher)
- ▶ 2nd Team All-SCIAC: **Matt Morgado '08**

Tennis

- ▶ 2007 SCIAC Sportsmanship Award

Track & Field

- ▶ All-Conference Team: **Chris Gartrell '08** (100m dash, 200m dash), **John Morely '07** (1500m run)

WOMEN'S TEAMS

Track & Field

- ▶ All-Conference Team: **Dana Allen '07** (100m hurdle, high jump), **Shuree Gangloff '09** (shot put, hammer throw), **Stephanie Warner '09** (javelin), **Molly Loesche '07** (pole vault), **Darline Partida '10** (1500m run)

Softball

- ▶ SCIAC Rookie of the Year: **Mary Pacheco '10**
- ▶ 1st Team All-SCIAC: **Amanda Carrasco '10** (outfield)
- ▶ 2nd Team All-SCIAC: **Brenna Winslow '07**, **Erica Ureno '08** (3rd base), **Vicky Ovieda '09** (outfield)
- ▶ SCIAC Athlete of the Week: **Mary Pacheco '10**

Water Polo

- ▶ 1st Team All-SCIAC: **Karley Perine '08**
- ▶ 2nd Team All-SCIAC: **Caroline Galvin '08** (2m)
- ▶ Honorable Mention: **Nicole Sandoval '08** (2m, driver)

Tennis

- ▶ 2nd Team All-SCIAC: **Viktoriya Soshina '07**

>> **NEARLY 25 PERCENT OF ALL ELIGIBLE STUDENTS ANNUALLY PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR MORE OF THE 21 POETS SPORTS TEAMS.**



SHUREE GANGLOFF '09 THROWS DOWN

EARNING ALL-AMERICAN HONORS at the 2007 Track and Field Championships, Shuree Gangloff set new records for the Poet program in an event not typically associated with women athletes: the discus throw.

Gangloff entered the Championships, which were hosted at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in late May, with the 11th best mark in the country. In the preliminary round of the event, she qualified for the finals with a mark of 139 feet, 5 inches; in the final round, she finished with the same mark, placing her fifth overall.

Gangloff currently holds the Whittier College women's record in the event with a mark of 147 feet, 7 inches, and this is the second consecutive year she has qualified for the national championships. In 2006, Gangloff earned ALL-SCIAC honors in both the discus and shot put, and, in 2007, earned the same for both the shot put and hammer throw events. Following, Gangloff and Head Coach Dave Hogan talk about how she's made it to this point, and what's ahead.

TR: How did you get involved with throwing events?

SG: I threw shot put in middle school, and my freshman year of high school I went out for the track team as a thrower. The coach just had me try discus one day, and I've now been doing it about six years.

DH: Having coached Shuree both in high school and at Whittier, I can say she's the type of athlete that is a natural for these events; she's got strong body awareness, quick feet, and she adapts well to listening and learning.

TR: Do you now regard discus as your favorite throw?

SG: God has blessed me with the ability to perform well in this particular event, and I love it. It's so much fun.

DH: I think I'd characterize it that she's great at discus, loves the hammer, and tolerates the shot put—the latter she just does for the team.

TR: Have you always performed well in this event, or do you perceive your talent really taking off after you began your college program?

SG: I have always been pretty good at discus, but there is always room to improve on technique. It has been a bumpy road to get to where I am today.

DH: Last year, there was no throwing coach at Whittier, so Shuree independently came to work with me one day a week. She's always been committed to the training, but now that she's marked three school records and earned All-American, I've seen her really focus in on setting and achieving personal goals. And she's even more driven now. When she came back from nationals, she was already back on her game, strength training and running the track. I've no doubt this next season she'll beat some of her own records.

TR: During the season, what's the training like for throwers?

DH: It's a very physical sport; athletes at the college level typically dedicate about 15 hours per week in training, which averages out to 2.5 to 3 hours per day, six days a week.

TR: So with all the demands on your time both in and out of season, how do you manage to be a successful scholar-athlete?

SG: It is certainly not an easy task. Track occupies a great deal of my time, but I try to stay focused on my academics and not procrastinate too much. I believe anyone can do if they put their mind to it.

TROPHY LIFE. ▼

All-American Shuree Gangloff models both new award and well-earned T-shirt, following her solid showing at the NCAA Championships in May.



>> AMONG LADY POET TRACK & FIELD ATHLETES, THE NUMBER OF SCIAC HONOREES FOR THE 2007 SEASON EQUALS THE COMBINED TOTAL OF SEASONS 2006 AND 2005.

COACHES' CORNER



► **PAUL GORDON WALMSLEY** starts this fall as new head coach for men's soccer. Walmsley, a native of northwest England, has been involved in the sport for decades, as both athlete and coach. He was a member of the University of Illinois soccer team that took the national championship in 1988, and comes to Whittier from his previous post as head coach at California State University Maritime Academy.

Relocating to the U.S. with a career goal of strengthening America's youth soccer programs, Walmsley has since had thousands of young players pass through his camps and clinics, and currently, there are 140 youth and adult soccer teams that play in his leagues at the Soccer Center of Excellence, LLC. Walmsley has also worked as a trainer at a number of camps including the Squaw Valley Soccer Camp, the Preston North End Summer Soccer School, and the Lancashire Football Association Centre of Excellence. He has over 300 children in his "Lil' Kickers" program for players aged 18 months to nine years, helping to further improve and promote the game of soccer within America's youth.



► **ALLISON HEDGPETH** will take over as head coach for women's water polo, moving up from assistant coach last season.

Hedgpeth, a SoCal native, graduated from NCAA Division II California State University, Bakersfield, in 2005. As a member of the Roadrunners water polo

team, she was named team captain and Most Valuable Player twice. She began her water polo career at the age of 13, playing club and varsity water polo, as well as swimming at Edison High School. In 2000, she was selected to play for the Southern California Zone team in Los Alamitos.



► **ALI OLIVER** has been named new head volleyball coach for the Poets. Prior to Whittier, Oliver was head coach at Cerritos College for two seasons, and led the Falcons to a second place finish in the South Coast Conference last season. A competitive volleyball athlete since

high school, Oliver had a collegiate career that included leading the state (CA) in kills as a freshman, a scholarship invitation to

play at Southeastern Louisiana University her junior season, and a starting position of outside hitter and team captain her senior year. Her professional coaching experience began her freshman year of college, serving as head coach for Huntington Beach Volleyball Club's 14-and-under team. Since that time, she has gained extensive coaching experience at the junior high, high school, club, and collegiate levels. Oliver holds a bachelor's degree in communications and master's degree in kinesiology from Sonoma State University.



► **JUSTIN PUDWILL** steps into the recently vacated shoes of head coach for men's water polo. No stranger to SCIAA, Pudwill previously coached three seasons for conference-rival Occidental, assisting both the men's and women's teams.

While earning a degree in sports management from Salem International University in West Virginia, Pudwill was himself a baseball, swimming, and water polo athlete, competing in the latter at a Division I level, and earning Academic All-American honors in all sports three years running.

After college, Pudwill went on to play semi-pro water polo in Canada, winning a national junior club championship in 1999. Returning to the States, he coached aquatics in Texas at the high-school level and subsequently co-founded that state's first year-round age group water polo program, the Dirty Bay Water Polo Club in Baytown. Within two years, the program grew from 20 members to more than 100.



► **RICHARD KIM '92**, a former award-winning Poet track and football athlete, has been appointed head coach for the men's golf program. For eight years prior, Kim was head coach for Upland High's golf team, and Baseline League Golf Manager for the past five years.

Under his leadership, Upland took its first-ever CIF Central Region Championship in 2005; in the Baseline League, the team secured a championship in 1999 and subsequently won four straight titles from 2002-2006. While at Upland, Kim also served as head girls' track and field coach for three seasons, and as assistant football coach for four seasons, leading the school to its first CIF Division VI Championship.

WINNING PITCH.

Drafted by the Houston Astros organization in 2006, former Poet southpaw pitcher Thomas Vessella '07 single-handedly took a no-hitter into the seventh inning, ensuring his team's 2-1 victory. Vessella currently plays for an Astros minor league team, the Tri-City ValleyCats.

>> **WHITTIER HIRED ITS FIRST SALARIED ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATOR IN 1893, RESPONDING TO STRONG STUDENT INTEREST IN FOOTBALL, BASEBALL, AND LAWN TENNIS.**



NOTHIN' BUT (DANISH) NET

THIS FALL, MICHELLE MASCOTO '07 leaves Whittier and the U.S. behind, having signed a contract to play basketball for Lemvig Basket, a basketball club on the west coast of Denmark. The team plays at the second level of Denmark's women's league.

Her senior season, the 5'10" forward took honors as Women's Team Sport Athlete of the Year, leading the Poets with over 30 minutes played per game, 11.3 points per game, 7.9 rebounds per game, 84 assists and 85 steals. In the conference, Mascoto also led the SCIAC in steals, placed fourth in assists, and fifth in rebounds.

Mascoto's new team finished the league in fourth last season, but with assistance from their recent Poet addition, they have high hopes for the coming year, according to Lemvig associate Rene Jakobsen.

"Our goal is to be one of the top two teams," said Jakobsen. "Michelle will be a key player to reach that goal."

"I am really excited about this opportunity," said Mascoto before heading to Denmark on August 13. "This is something I have wanted for a long time. It's going to be a great life experience."



RE-INVENTING THE POETS

On May 15 at the year-end sports banquet, Whittier Athletics unveiled its new graphic identity program—complete with a new logo, revised mascot, and team marks. The change was prompted by members of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC), who strongly felt the program lacked a viable identity, and one to which present and future student-athletes could relate. Interviewed by The Rock, Athletics Director Rob Coleman explained why the decision to act on this initiative at this time is a critical step toward enhancing the overall Poet program.



me, they expressed concern over our general sports identity and suggested that a change to the visual program could positively impact all our efforts—and further build on the campus excitement and support engendered by last year's implementation of the 'Fear the Poet' campaign. What was needed was a new face of Poet athletics to complement the spirit of our adopted tagline."

In fall, Coleman contacted Phoenix Design Works, a New York-based company that has partnered with several NCAA schools. Over the next six months, and with a dedicated committee composed of students, athletics coaches and staff, and Purple & Gold president and former student athlete Patty Juarez '98, Coleman and company worked together with Phoenix to develop a signature graphic portfolio, one that "accurately reflected where we are, and importantly, who we want to become—a fierce competitor across all sports, and a collegiate program to be feared, envied, and respected."

The entire program actually has more than 30 variations on the new look, the majority of which are individual team sports marks, with booster club Purple & Gold also getting a related look. The official Whittier College athletics logo is now the "WC

"In our market particularly—Division III competitive levels, no athletic scholarships—it's critical that we can connect our program with 16- and 17-year-old athletes, so that we can first recruit, then retain solid talent," Coleman began. "This generation of college-bound students is constantly bombarded with literature and brochures selling sound-byte promises and featuring enhanced graphics. To stay competitive, therefore, it's critical that our recruitment materials grab their attention, resonate with their image of college athletics, and pique their interest enough to respond to that first outreach.

He continued: "Recalling their own experiences in recruitment, and now participating in the Poet program, the SAAC has really been the driving force behind the graphics change. In several meetings with

>> THE JOHNNY POET MASCOT MADE ITS DEBUT IN FALL OF 1998, REPLACING PREVIOUS MASCOT FRIDAY THE SQUIRREL, MODELED AFTER THE FURRY, LIVE COMPANION OF POET J.G. WHITTIE!

with Pen," which currently looms over the entryway to the Donald E. Graham Athletics Center, and is used as the primary identifying element on all athletics correspondence. The logo, along with a new athletic font and bolder color palette, will also be applied to new uniform designs, the purchase of which will occur in phases over the next few years. Additional banners and signs bearing the new mark and mascot are being installed around our athletic facilities and fields, including the weight room and Dave Jacobs Court, which now sports the fearsome John Poet at center court.

"And, yes, the most drastic change has come with our new mascot iteration of Johnny—now 'John'—Poet," said Coleman.

This rendering is unquestionably different from both its predecessors—the revolutionary Quaker figure used throughout the late 1990s and early 2000s, and,

of course, Whittier's original furry mascot, Friday the Squirrel. And, while the made-over JP has not met with universal accord, the majority of responses have been tremendously positive from student-athletes, coaches, parents, and alumni alike, as well as a few surveyed prospective students. Simply, they all concur this new John Poet is a terrific match for Whittier's sports program, both present and future.

"When I walk out of the locker room, that new mascot gives me greater confidence," said Sarah Peel '09, an athlete on the women's water polo team. "It lets the other team know—the Poets *should* be feared."

Also telling, recalls Coleman, at a golf tournament in nearby Palm Desert, about 20 alumni from the 70s and 80s got a sneak peek at the new John Poet graphic. "The burning question became, 'where can I get some gear with this new Poet image?'"

(At this time, the department is not yet set up to merchandise; when it is, however, items will be available for sale at all home games.)

"It's really exciting to be part of the program at this time. From a marketing standpoint, Whittier College athletics has finally jumped into the new millennium with both feet, and we are ready to fully market our collegiate teams, something that hasn't been done in the past," says Coleman. "I am proud of what we've already accomplished, and what we will achieve in future, with the help of SAAC, all the student-athletes, members of P&G, and the coaching team, and I am confident we are heading in the right direction."

TALK BACK.

Have an opinion about the new athletic logo, the revised John Poet, or our redesigned website? Please send comments to WCPoets@whittier.edu; letters may be posted online or in *The Rock*.

The screenshot displays the Whittier College Poets website. At the top, the new logo features a pirate-themed John Poet. The header includes the text "WHITTIER COLLEGE POETS" and "WCPOETS.COM THE OFFICIAL SITE OF WHITTIER COLLEGE ATHLETICS". A navigation bar lists "WHITTIER.EDU • PURPLE & GOLD CLUB • CAMPS • RECREATION • CORPORATE SPONSORS". On the left, a "Search Site" box with a "GO" button is present, followed by a "MEN'S SPORTS" menu listing Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Track & Field, and Water Polo. Below this is a "WOMEN'S SPORTS" menu listing Basketball, Cross Country, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, and Swimming & Diving. The main content area shows a water polo player in action. To the right, a scoreboard for a "Volleyball" game on "9/13/07" shows "La Sierra" with 0 points and "Whittier" with 3 points. Below the scoreboard is a "SCHEDULE" section listing "9/19/07 - Women's Soccer" (Whittier vs Redlands at 7:00 pm) and "9/19/07 - Men's Soccer" (Whittier vs Redlands at 7:00 pm). At the bottom right, there is a "Get your Newsletter" button. The website's URL "WCPOETS.COM" is repeated vertically on the right side.

WORLD WIDE WHITTIER POET

BEYOND THE NEW LOGO, the revised mascot, and the redesigned sports uniforms to come, one more critical initiative in the expansion and promo of Whittier Athletics has been address the program's website.

Working with PrestoSports, a company that has also revised the SCI site and a number of fellow competitors', the new cyber-home of the Poet offers enhanced content and interact features to the Whittier program, from flash scoreboards, to newsletters, to online voting polls. In real time all t time, you can stay current with Poet sports, even if you live halfway around the world. Please visit our new site at www.wcpoets.com.

>> THE ANNUAL ALUMNI MEN'S WATER POLO GAME IS SCHEDULED ON OCTOBER 27 @ 4 P.M. AT THE SLADE AQUATICS CENTER, DURING WHITTIER WEEKEND 2007.



PUBLIC POLICY, PUBLIC SERVICE

IN SPRING OF THIS YEAR, several alumni headed to campus as participants in the “America at Risk” symposium, organized by political science professor Fred Bergerson and a team of his former and current students. The idea, says Bergerson, was to promote a connection between alumni and students through discussion of a timely issue of national importance—one that would serve as a catalyst for lively and lasting intellectual interaction.

Specifically, the daylong event delved into public policy and personal stories surrounding the intersection of transportation and national security, with panels on civil liberties and the political economy of U.S. ports and a keynote by a former deputy director in California’s Department of Homeland Security. Judging by all reviews, the event hit its intended mark; as Bergerson summed it up: “Public policy is a subject that people can get so passionate about, and the best thing to see was the rather ‘rigorous discussions’ that continued throughout the day and afterwards.”

In truth, Whittier College has a longstanding history of its graduates getting involved in issues of public policy and, in essence, committing to lives of public service—and not just the U.S. presidency. To date, hundreds of Whittier alumni have served in public office, have been presidential appointees in government branches, or have worked in service or advocacy organizations, all with the intent to positively shape and reform the laws of this country to protect its people, secure their rights as citizens, and ameliorate their lives overall.

On the following pages, four Whittier alumni currently working in the public policy arena are profiled, soldiers in the battle to modify policy and improve the execution of laws related to agriculture, disabled rights, education, and diversity in commerce.

ALBERT JACQUEZ '77

PRINCIPAL, STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS WASHINGTON



TO THE REST OF THE COUNTRY, there's nothing run-of-the-mill about Albert Jacquez's career history; unless, perhaps, you also work in Washington, D.C. and have leap-frogged through several influential positions in government.

Over recent decades, Jacquez has been—among other posts—chief executive for the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation; chief of staff for Congressman Esteban Torres (D-CA); and staff director on the House Banking Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs. Currently, he's a consultant developing policy initiatives for the 2007 Farm Bill reauthorization. His work, if successful, will create legislative reforms that support small, minority, and beginning farmers.

After graduating Whittier with a degree in political science, Jacquez attended the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas, Austin, where he earned a master's degree. During that time, he worked short stints as a political consultant and staffer for a Texas House Representative. But his political career really took off when he accepted the position of senior legislative assistant with Congressman Torres in 1983, then 10 years later, as the Congressman's chief of staff. In between the two positions with Congressman Torres, he worked as staff director for the Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs, on the House Banking Committee.

Excelling in these high-profile positions, he soon earned both notice and regard in high political circles, and in 1999, was appointed by then-President Bill Clinton to head the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, responsible for all operations around the bi-national waterways of the Great Lakes. During his seven-year tenure, he worked closely with Canada's Seaway Development Corporation, promoting the mutual waterway interests, leading trade delegations all over the world, and working closely with local waterway communities, Native American tribes, and labor unions.

The aftermath of 9/11 increased the security concerns of cargo transportation in and around the U.S. ports and became a critical issue during his term.

"While we faced challenges after 9-11, the bi-national Seaway Corporations were lucky to have a state-of-the-art navigation system in place that included an automatic identification system, which told controllers where a ship was,

what it was carrying, its speed and destination," Jacquez says. "We also already had close relations with intelligence and law enforcement. So we were in a good position for managing the challenges we faced."

Jacquez says he got into politics to give back to his community. Looking back over his career, he believes he's lived up to his goal through his public policy work, building coalitions around issues like transportation and economic development and trade. He's also been a champion for issues in his native—Los Angeles through his work with Congressman Torres, as well as in his work for non-profits to support socially disadvantaged, minority populations.

"After my term at the Seaway, it was clear to me that I wanted to go back to doing the things that I came to D.C. to do," Jacquez says. "As a policy consultant, I've put myself in the position to work on issues I feel passionate about—what I'm doing now is a perfect fit for me."

While his experience is vast across many areas, he says the trick to successfully advancing public policy isn't so much knowing "everything about everything." Rather it's about knowing who the right people to assemble are, and how to find a common ground for their divergent ideas and interests.

"...I've put myself in the position to work on issues I feel passionate about."

"For example, when I started working to reform federal food and farm policy, I wasn't an agricultural expert, but I did know how to build coalitions and navigate the public policy process," Jacquez says. "While substantive expertise is important, the critical skills for driving public policy are the abilities to quickly synthesize information, bring together different interests, and develop consensus."

Jacquez credits his Whittier College education for fostering his coalition-building abilities.

"Those are important skills you get from a liberal arts education," he says. "In today's information-overload society, those skills are more valuable now than when I was at Whittier." ■



MELANIE BRUNSON '76

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR THE BLIND



PERHAPS IT'S A COMBINATION OF HER LEGAL SKILLS and more than a decade of doing battle with bureaucrats in D.C., but when you first talk with Melanie Brunson, you'll clearly notice one thing: she's a fighter.

What you may not pick up, though, is that she's a fighter who's legally blind.

Graduating from both Whittier College and Whittier Law School, Brunson began her career as a law clerk with the Whittier Public Interest Legal Clinic. After passing the bar exam, she then set up her own practice in Whittier, principally dealing with estate plans, wills, and working with many families that had disabled members. Throughout these years, Brunson was also an active member in a local chapter of the California Council for the Blind.

Over time, Brunson realized her career interests lay with disability rights advocacy, and decided to make a change. "On a whim" she applied for a governmental affairs position with the American Council for the Blind (ACB), located in Washington, D.C. A risky move, she now admits, but ultimately it turned out to be a dream job. She was hired, and remained in that post until the organization's executive director quit. Brunson was offered the chance to step in the role—first as acting director, then permanently promoted to executive director in 2004.

To date, more than 180 countries worldwide have successfully tackled the issue of blind-friendly currency production, but not the United States.

In 2002, Brunson worked with others in the ACB to build a case against the U.S. Department of the Treasury, alleging that agency's violation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, which states, "no qualified individual with a disability in the United States shall be excluded from, denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity... conducted by any Executive agency." Four years after the lawsuit was filed, the ACB team was handed a major victory when a federal district court ruled the claim valid. Unfortunately, though, Brunson's work on this case continues as the government has since appealed the ruling.

But Brunson does remark that many ACB victories are small ones, just as a lot of the disability biases still occurring today are pretty surprising. For example, she's had clients turned away by prospective landlords who won't rent an apartment to a blind applicant. In these cases, Brunson will intervene on their behalf with a friendly phone call, and most of the time, she notes, it will boil down to a bit of public education about the disability, rather than end in litigation. And because the preponderance of these small-but-many cases turn out well, Brunson considers her job quite rewarding.

"The critical aspect of our efforts that often gets lost is that we're promoting the independence of people who are visually impaired. We're not seeking special consideration; merely equal consideration. And that's something I learned well on the Whittier campus.

"I was the only blind student at the time, and I was treated as if it were the most normal thing. I never felt singled out or treated differently. And I was seen just as capable as anyone else. I think because of that experience, I made the decision to go into advocacy. I knew it was possible to be integrated into the 'mainstream' of society, and at the same time, accommodated as needed.

"What I'd say to any student now considering a career in public policy or advocacy is this: Be persistent, even in the face of what seems to be an impossibility. Stick to your principles for the long haul; things may not happen quickly, but they do happen. And if you're faced with the question, 'How long should I continue to do this work', just ask yourself this: 'How long do I have to live?'" ■

**"I was the only blind student
the time, and I was treated as if
it were the most normal thing."**

Asked if there's a particular policy campaign she's worked on that really hit home, Brunson doesn't hesitate. "It's the development of federal currency—getting the government to issue paper currency that's distinguishable by the visually impaired. A blind person has to rely on—and trust—others to complete any transaction that involves an exchange of paper money, because the characteristics of bills are indistinguishable by touch."

M. RENE ISLAS '00

VICE PRESIDENT, EDUCATION PRACTICE, B&D CONSULTING



DESPITE A GENEALOGY that confirms "education is the Islas family business," M. Rene Islas decided not to become a teacher. Instead, he was drawn to the intrigue and intricacies that remotely govern the schools, the lawmakers and policies that shape the industry to which his family had devoted itself for decades. So, Islas

went to Washington, D.C.

Leaving Whittier College with a degree in political science, he spent two years working with the Council for Basic Education, initially hired as a policy analyst, then promoted to director for institutional advancement. He next earned a political appointment to the U.S. Department of Education (DoEd) within the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, first serving as special assistant to then-Assistant Secretary Susan Newman, then to Secretary Rod Paige, and eventually as chief of staff under former Assistant Secretary Henry Johnson. During those four years with the DoEd, Islas worked largely in support of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), managing the overall operations, policy development, and administration of programs connected with NCLB's teacher quality standards.

During this time, he also traveled around the country representing the DoEd, meeting with chief state school officers and state education agencies, and speaking with school administrators and faculty on the issues of teacher assessment, supply, and demand raised by NCLB. He recalls that during these latter sessions, one particular question of semantics became a hot button for his audiences.

"A critical passage in the bill calls for schools to verify the 'high quality' of their teachers," he says. "Repeatedly, I was advised by school faculty that 'qualified does not mean effective.'"

As a result, Islas worked to shift the focus of the law, clarifying that "highly qualified" is a baseline standard, but the real focus ought to be on whether teachers are "highly effective"—related to an educator's ability to raise student achievement. He also led the administration's efforts to create a new federal program, the Teacher Incentive Fund, recognizing effective educators.

In 2006, Islas moved on to a vice presidency with B&D Consulting's startup division in education practice. In addition to his roster of clients, he also heads up a new B&D initiative that blends his experience in policy and advocacy with practical application on a more individual scale. Currently, he and his team are putting together a School Improvement Model, which essentially takes NCLB to the next step. The law, Islas says, has been terrific at helping states identify schools in need of improvement, but it provides no real assistance or guidance to turn a school around to meet the standards it sets for assessment.

**"That's where we come in.
We get to be on-the-ground supporting
determining specific resources and
technical support needed..."**

"The biggest hurdle to improving our national school system is that investment into educational research to find out what works and what doesn't has significantly decreased in the last decades—though there is some revived interest in that area. This lack of research—beyond anecdotal evidence—makes it difficult to determine with any certainty if these interventions are working.

"That's where we come in. We get to be on-the-ground support, determining specific resources and technical support needed, then providing a realistic blueprint to transform these schools that are falling below acceptable standards," he says with confidence.

Currently, B&D is in contract negotiations with the State of Indiana, preparing to implement the BDC School Improvement Model in several districts within the next year. Utilizing current research and best practices to develop a sustainable, working prototype, the team of experts led by Islas includes superintendents from the Indiana school system, professors from Indiana University, and one recent, welcome addition—Islas' former DoEd boss, Henry Johnson. ■



ADRIENNE CISNEROS '81

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED
BUSINESS UTILIZATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



AS A WHITTIER UNDERGRAD, Adrienne Cisneros had career aspirations that were a far cry from working in our nation's capitol. Her dream? To be an artist.

But with definite guidance from her father ("he said he wouldn't pay for an art degree"), she instead chose to pursue a major

in business administration, with a marketing focus. In the years following her graduation, Cisneros built a career in public relations/public affairs, working in senior positions for firms such as PowellTate and Shandwick Weber, in the U.S. Department of Commerce, and eventually with the Bush and Dole presidential campaigns.

Today Cisneros is applying her communications savvy and wealth of experience in leadership and team-building as a presidential-appointee to the Department of Energy (DOE),

potential contract opportunities, and to find ways to level the competitive playing field. The goal is to increase small business opportunities at the DOE."

Among her responsibilities, Cisneros also oversees the development and production of the federal government's Annual Small Business Conference, a pivotal event where owners can network with prime government contractors, and receive critical guidance about how to submit and negotiate a viable, winning bid.

And she is occasionally called in to serve the needs of the White House Advance Office. Immediately prior to joining the DOE, Cisneros' posts were largely connected with the work of the Oval Office. During both Bush administrations, she was part of the Advance teams, facilitating foreign and domestic events, responsible for the logistics and technical setup for travel and press conferences, and handling the local media. As a result, she has ridden on a nuclear aircraft carrier in the Arabian Sea, worked with Tony Snow and the Press Corps on Air Force One, and stayed in an Afghan war zone.

"When I get detailed to the White House, I typically work with the State Department, the Secret Service, and White House Communications. Some of my favorite assignments have involved traveling abroad with the vice president," she says, recounting recent tours to Ireland, Oman, and Pakistan. "Seriously, this kind of work tops even the best E-ticket rides."

While Cisneros says it is not her plan to be a politico long term, she does admit that her D.C. career has resulted in several amazing opportunities, and offered the satisfaction of having made a critical contribution.

"When I was an undergrad, I had no idea I'd be doing this; my dream was not to work for the government," she says, still registering slight surprise at the direction her life has taken. "But I'm also aware this chance may never come again. All these experiences combined have truly educated me. I know that I can be put in a position, and really do something important—from helping the owner of a small business win a big contract, to working in remote locations with foreign press and dignitaries, and conducting high-profile events."

"Working with the media, different groups and coalitions, advisory groups and different associations, and making sense of the whole thing—without question, I now know that's what I do best," says Cisneros. ■

specifically as associate director for the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization. In her role, she serves as an advocate and advisor for small businesses owned by women, minorities, or veterans, assisting them to secure DOE contracts; she also promotes the department's small business policy and programs.

According to Cisneros, the DOE purchases \$23 billion in goods and services a year. With the sheer number of major corporations dominating the competition for department contracts, small and minority businesses are often in a disadvantaged position.

However, paramount to President Bush's small business agenda is a belief that it's precisely small businesses that drive the economy, she explains. "So, my challenge is to assist in positioning both the DOE contract managers and small/disadvantaged business owners, to work within the parameters of

"Some of my favorite assignments have involved traveling abroad with the vice president."

IN PURSUIT OF PUBLIC POLICY

Melanie Abe '09

Abe was selected as one of only nine students nationwide for a summer internship through the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS).

"My APAICS internship placed me with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), working in the main office of the Assistant Secretary of Employment Standards Administration (ESA) to DOL President Elaine Chao," explains Abe.

ESA is the largest agency within the DOL, and its mission is to "enhance the welfare and protect the rights of American workers." It enforces and administers laws governing legally mandated wages and working conditions, including laws related to child labor, minimum wages; overtime and family and medical leave; equal employment opportunity in businesses with federal contracts and subcontracts; workers' compensation; certain union regulations and practices; and other laws and regulations governing employment standards and practices.



"My first impressions of D.C. and of my internship were completely positive," Abe recalls. "I was mesmerized by the atmosphere, scenery, and reality that I am a federal employee, working in and for our nation's capitol. Many of the people I work with were presidential appointees, and are some of the brightest, talented, and most considerate I have had the pleasure to know.

Best of all, they have provided me with extra insight and knowledge about public policy and administration in a real-life context. I could not have asked for a better learning and growing experience." ■

Lauren Vargas '08

Vargas competed and won a highly competitive fellowship from the Public Policy and International Affairs program (PPIA). Thirty students were accepted into the program this year, which began with the Junior Summer Institute, a seven-week residency with an intensive curriculum encompassing economics, domestic/international policy issues, and leadership topics.



"My ultimate goal is to become a United States attorney," Vargas says. "Ideally, I would like to go on for my master's program right after I finish at Whittier, but I realize I may need to take a year or two break from school in order to get the practical work experience that many grad schools now prefer an applicant to have."

Organized through a consortium of the top public and international affairs graduate schools in the nation, the PPIA fellowship program consists of a series of educational and developmental programs that begin with the summer institute and continue through the completion of a master's degree in public policy, public administration, and/or international affairs at a consortium school. The expectation is that the PPIA Fellow will pursue a career in public service, and embody the program's ideals of cultural awareness, social sensitivity, and a commitment to making a better world.

Vargas chose Carnegie Mellon as the site for her summer program, and, should she also decide to pursue her master's degree there, she will likely receive a full-tuition scholarship and a stipend of \$6,000 per year.

"Right now, I am seriously considering both the University of Michigan and Carnegie Mellon for my graduate program, but after my summer on the Carnegie campus, the decision will probably be clearer," she says. ■



MODEL CITIZENS

Whittier's Model United Nations Program
Delivers World Views, Practice in Negotiation



NATIONS BATTLING TO ASSERT THEIR POSITIONS, DELEGATES ARGUING IN COMMITTEE, BACK ROOM DEALS BEING MADE AS LEGISLATION IS DRAFTED AND RE-DRAFTED—ANOTHER DAY AT THE UNITED NATIONS? TRY THE MODEL UNITED NATIONS, A LONG-ESTABLISHED SIMULA- TION PROGRAM THAT HELPS STUDENTS AROUND THE WORLD IMPROVE THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR PROGRAMS ON THE POET CAMPUS TODAY.

Photos by Steve Burns

Part of Whittier's curriculum for 37 years, Model United Nations (MUN) is a program where students simulate the activities of the United Nations and its affiliated organizations. Over the years, it has grown from just a few students when it was originally offered to more than 35 in 2007. Grads of the Poet program number in the hundreds, and several have gone on to successfully pursue internships or full careers either within the United Nations itself or with other global human rights organizations.

Overseeing Whittier's program is Political Science Professor Mike McBride—an apt leader who has also served 14 years as a consultant to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). In this role, McBride assists in the researching and tracking of humanitarian policy, writing reports analyzing UN activities in New York City, composing speeches for delivery in the UN General Assembly, and attending deliberations of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Security Council. Annually, McBride heads to Geneva or New York in summer to work with the UNHCR, often taking along a Whittier student to intern with the organization, as well.

But the Whittier course not only introduces students to the basic operations of the organization or aids them in gaining work. It serves as a venue for teaching students the art of diplomacy, critical thinking, and fair-minded negotiation.

"One of the greatest lessons students experience in the program is that they are forced to put themselves in somebody else's shoes," McBride says. "It encourages them to develop a



certain empathy and tolerance, and realize there isn't always an easy or direct solution to problems."

Students are designated as representatives of countries or a UN council in advance of the annual assembly of the Model United Nations of the Far West—the conference in which Whittier participates. These delegates are then required to draft position papers on three issues in keeping with their assigned country's stance. Much of the preparation is done during class, where students develop techniques in diplomacy, research, public →

▲ DELEGATE NEGOTIATIONS.

Whittier students participating in the Model United Nations confer on strategies and tactics, preparing for the 2007 MUN of the Far West Conference.

“... you begin to understand what is really going on behind political negotiations and deals, the significance of certain issues on a global scale, the financial or political power some nations have and how they choose to use it, and the burden of responsibility to preserve human rights that must be shared and not ignored.”

speaking, and writing in what McBride and others refer to as “UN-ese”. Students also explore the history and politics of various regions.

As is the case with the actual New York-based organization, students must negotiate and carefully maneuver in line with the political and economic needs and demands of the country they represent.

For many, it is an eye-opening experience.

In the years Lesley Cole '08 has attended Whittier College, her interests have radically altered, moving from only a mild curiosity about international relations and policy to placing the needs of the world's disenfranchised front and center. Cole, along with fellow MUN students Whitney Gorton '08 and Caitlin Finley '08, recently established a campus chapter of the organization STAN:D (Students Taking Action Now: Darfur), which seeks to raise awareness about the critical issue of genocide currently taking place in the western region of Sudan.

A triple major in political science, French, and religious studies, Cole attributes her now-keen interest in the global political scene directly to her experience in Whittier's MUN

program, as well as her subsequent internship with the UNHCR in Geneva last summer. At MUN conferences to date, Cole has portrayed a Jamaican delegate, a U.S. delegate, and served as a chair of the Economic and Social Council. Next spring, she will serve as Secretary-General, the highest position in the organization.

“Studying international affairs on this scale really changed the way I saw the world beyond Whittier College,” said Cole. “In the program as a delegate or Council member, you begin to understand what is really going on behind political negotiations and deals, the significance of certain issues on a global scale, the financial or political power some nations have and how they choose to use it, and the burden of responsibility to preserve human rights that must be shared and not ignored.”

When representing smaller countries, in particular, students find they are in a most vulnerable position—one that requires flexibility, skillful negotiations, and, above all, tact.

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED.

Amanda Hope '08, Whittier's second Thomas R. Pickering Fellow, discusses a point with her fellow delegates.



▲ **DIPLOMACY REQUIRED.** Erin Clancy '07, former Secretary-General of the MJC, chairs a debate in class during her final year of involvement in the program. Post-graduation, Clancy is continuing her global studies as a Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellow at Tufts University's Fletcher School of Diplomacy.



▲ UNITED WE STAND.

MUN leader Professor Mike McBride teaches Whittier students targeted skills to prepare them for conference participation, including techniques in diploma research, public speaking, writing, and the language he calls "UN-ese."

"You're not trying to debate an issue. You're trying to negotiate a solution," explains Caroline Cox '10, who last year represented Benin, a French-speaking country in West Africa. "In all discussions, you must be diplomatic, courteous, and in no way come across as hostile."

Raye Thomas '08, who has taken the course three years running and represented Norway, the United States, and France, respectively, agrees with Cox. "It's all about how you present yourself and how you talk. You really have to familiarize yourself with a country's facts and history as much as you possibly can."

"It's my job is to deliver the best impression of my assigned country and to promote and protect its interests" he adds. "You can't do that unless you've thoroughly done your homework."

The themes of the annual Model United Nations of the Far West Conference, which includes about 35 schools and 500 participants each year, have included "Empowerment of Women," "Conflict Resolution," "Follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals," and "Rethinking National Sovereignty." In 2008, the conference will focus on "Addressing the Needs of the Vulnerable."

"We wanted to take the conference back to a humanitarian approach," says Cole, who along with Cox, has emphasized Africa in her studies and believes that the continent is often overlooked or trampled upon by larger, more powerful countries. Both students hold that more needs to be done for underde-

veloped, poor countries, yet they also share an understanding of the related, political constraints that come with accepting significant aid and financial assistance.

When Cox represented Benin, she says she tried to "keep the international community at arms length so that our government has a say in how we deal with issues that came up. But donor nations ultimately ended up having a say because it's their money."

Cox, a political science and economics major with a minor in math, will chair the African Union Regional Organization at the upcoming conference.

Despite the challenges, Cox has learned a valuable lesson from Whittier's Model UN program.

"I think in general I've learned to find a happy medium in all situations," she says.

Cox pauses a moment, then adds: "With Whittier's Model UN program you get a sense that, OK, the United Nations really can make an impact. With good leadership, commitment to action, and a willingness to compromise among all participating nations, this organization might really be able to accomplish something, to change the world for the better." ■



▲ WOMEN IN CHARGE.

Chief planners for the 2008 MUN of the Far West Conference include (left to right): Carolin Cox '10, Director General of the African Union Regional Organization Whitney Gorton '08, Under Secretary-General and Lesley Cole '08, Secretary-General.

STUDENT MEETS WORLD

MUN Experience Leads to Internships, Related Careers

THANKS IN LARGE PART to Prof. Mike McBride's oversight of the Model UN program, 30 Whittier College students have interned and seven have been employed with the United Nations. All speak highly of the experience and note its impact on their chosen careers.

"Planning the Model UN conference was an incredible experience. I had the chance to serve as chef de cabinet, and my job had so many odds and ends, I got to do everything," remembers Yasmin Jamshed '04, one of many MUN grads who pursued a related career in human rights and international policy. Her father a diplomat with the State Department, Jamshed grew up overseas and "always had somewhat of an international perspective." After graduating from Whittier, she earned a master's degree in global affairs and interned with the UNHCR. She now works for the non-governmental organization Mediaglobal.org, a group that brings issues of poverty and development to the media marketplace.

"As I recall, I was part of the Iraqi delegation the year I participated—my senior year," said Melanie Brunson '76, executive director for the American Council of the Blind who now negotiates the political waters in Washington, D.C. (see article p. 26). "What I mostly remember is that it was so interesting to see some of the topics we had dealt with on a small scale, later be negotiated in the real United Nations. I had a wonderful time in MUN; my only regret is that I didn't participate in the program earlier."

Fellow MUN-grad Michelle Cervantes '88 now works full-time for the UNHCR in New York as a senior policy coordination assistant (see profile on p. 35). In addition to helping several Whittier students obtain internships with the organization, Cervantes still stays connected with the Model UN program, serving as vice president on the board of the Model UN of the Far West—the conference in which Whittier College participates.

"When we put on a successful conference for about 500 people, it's so satisfying, especially because with our experience at the real U.N., we bring an authenticity to the conference," says Cervantes. ■

FROM WHITTIER LINDSTROM MODELS RUSSIAN MUN EQUIVALENT



▲ SPASIBO! Thanks to Jeff Lindstrom '94 (far right), students from the Russian Far East now have the opportunity to experience the Model United Nations program, and travel to the U.S. to participate in the MUN of the Far West Conference.

AS A WHITTIER UNDERGRAD, Jeff Lindstrom '94 did not participate in the Model United Nations (MUN) program. Ironically, though, the political science and economics double major wound up devoting a good portion of his time following graduation to establishing and operating a successful MUN counterpart in the Russian Far East.

"A colleague asked me to teach students how to debate," explains Lindstrom who, at the time, was in the Peace Corps working as a teacher in Vladivostok, Russia. "But I didn't want to teach formal debate with winners and losers. I wanted to do it 'Model UN-style,' which demonstrates that success can be attained through negotiating a win-win situation."

Recalling that Whittier's MUN program had achieved and maintained a solid reputation among participating West Coast schools, Lindstrom sought guidance from the program's

longtime advisor, Professor of Political Science Mike McBride, prior to setting up the Russian version. Over the ensuing months, McBride offered insight into the operational aspects of creating a similar program; he also served as a much-appreciated sounding board for the challenges Lindstrom occasionally faced in mounting a "democratic agenda" in a once-communist country.

With an official Model UN Russia up-and-running in 2000, Lindstrom was then eager to lead teams of Russian students to the United States for the annual Model United Nations of the Far West Conference—the very same regional event in which Whittier College participates.

"We took this opportunity quite seriously, and for the first three or four years we did extremely well," recalls Lindstrom with pride. "Our Russian teams gained notoriety similar to Whittier's; we were

WITH LOVE

FOR ALMA MATER'S

"... I didn't want to teach formal debate with winners and losers. I wanted to do it 'Model UN-style,' which demonstrates that success can be attained through negotiating a win-win situation."

ays well-prepared, skilled, and focused. In general, we were right up there."

Synonymous with the Russian program's winning success, Lindstrom found equal accomplishment in related matters of global concern; in 2003, he was instrumental in initiating Russia's degree-granting Institute of Sustainable Development. The experience was a valuable one, and earned him a consultant for California State University, Chico, which instituted a similar degree program.

Having lived and worked in the Russian Far East for nearly a decade of his life, this year Lindstrom returned to the United States to pursue an advanced degree at Belmont Graduate University. And, though MUN leadership will be sorely missed, his legacy continues in the work of future competitive Russian teams. ■

REHEARSAL FOR LIFE

Alumna Exchanges Model UN for the Real Thing

WHEN MICHELLE CERVANTES '88 threw herself into studying political science at Whittier and participating in the Model UN, little did she realize the role that the actual United Nations would come to play in her future. Now a senior policy coordination assistant for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Cervantes works in an office tasked with leading and coordinating international efforts to protect refugees, as well as solve refugee crises as they occur throughout the world.

After graduating from Whittier, Cervantes worked in local government for the city of South Gate before political science professor Fred Bergerson recommended she apply to a program studying politics at the Hebrew University in Israel. Following this experience, Cervantes turned her attention to graduate schools, eventually selecting the City University of New York. While working towards her Ph.D., she interned at the U.N. and ended up writing her thesis on the Department of Humanitarian Affairs (now known as the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs).

After this Whittier-native finished her grad studies and returned to California, she worked closely with Whittier political science professor Mike McBride as assistant director of foreign studies. However, with her extensive insight into humanitarian policy and organizational structures, Cervantes was soon invited back to the United Nations in New York by UNHCR.

"I never thought I'd work long-term in the United Nations," she says. "Before I came here, everyone said it was just so bureaucratic. People said nothing ever got accomplished. But that's not the case. I track inter-agency efforts to deal with humanitarian assistance, working with issues like refugee children and children of conflict. This office of the U.N. has helped so many people."

Specifically, the New York Office of the UNHCR tracks humanitarian issues within the various bodies of the U.N., and works to monitor member states' concerns about resolutions and compliance. As Cervantes explains, having the widest number of member states support legislation is the goal, and consensus-building is a huge part of the job. By having broad consensus on legislation that is sensitive to different nations' needs, the policies being legislated have a much better chance of being implemented, with direct results for helping people.

Cervantes sees several ways in which Whittier prepared her for life with the United Nations. One project in particular, a simulation in *Introduction to Political Science* called SimSoc, had students divide into groups which were then allocated (or not allocated in some cases) assets like money or natural resources with which to work. She explains, "This is incredibly relevant today. I was just in a meeting which discussed the massive effect which having or not having natural resources had on security issues."

Of Whittier overall, Michelle recalls, "When I was at Whittier I loved my history classes, and all the classes I took with Professors Bergerson and McBride. Bergerson taught with such gusto, sharing his experiences in the army and State Department. His public policy course was my favorite, and now that I have 'policy' in my job title, I'm so glad he showed me all that's behind the development of good policy." ■

OUT STANDING GRADS 2007

ON MAY 25, WHITTIER COLLEGE GRANTED APPROXIMATELY 350 BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES THEIR HARD-EARNED DIPLOMAS, AND PROUDLY BID GOOD-BYE TO SOME OF ITS BEST STUDENTS—FROM ATHLETES TO ACADEMICIANS, AWARD-WINNERS TO ENTREPRENEURS, MUSICIANS TO ARTISTS TO ACTORS. FOLLOWING ARE FIVE OF OUR MOST OUTSTANDING GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 2007, NOMINATED BY WHITTIER FACULTY AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE APPLIED AND NATURAL SCIENCES, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, AND THE CREATIVE ARTS FIELDS.



ASHLEY ACEVES

HOMETOWN: Montebello, CA

MAJOR: Business Administration

STATS: Dean's List (8 semesters), 2007 Outstanding Graduate in Business Administration Award, 2007 Outstanding Graduate in the Finance Concentration Award, Murdy Writing Award in Business Administration, Alianza de los Amigos Academic Achievement Award, Distinction in the Major honor, Academic Excellence in Business Administration Honor.

PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIP TAKEN: Southern California Edison (SCE) Finance & Contract Auditing Group

PLANS POST-GRADUATION: Hired as internal auditor for SCE Operational & Consulting Division and MBA in Finance.

MY BEST RESEARCH PAPER: *The Ascension of English and Two Economic Powers*, comparing the economic rise to prosperity of English-speaking nations and the rise in prestige and influence of the English language in the past few centuries.

THE MOST EXCITING DEVELOPMENT IN THE FINANCIAL INDUSTRY IS...online trading through discount brokerage firms.



DANIELLE ORNER

HOMETOWN: Temecula, CA

MAJOR: Whittier Scholars Program, The Role of Narrative in Society

STATS: Rhodes Scholar Nominee, Dean's List (all semesters), Outstanding Graduate in English and Distinction in Whittier Scholars Program, First Year Leadership Award, W. Roy Newsom Creative Writing Awards (two first place, short fiction; one first place poetry), Alpha Psi Omega (Theater Honor Society), Omicron Delta Kappa (Leadership Honor Society) Merit Sigma Tau Delta (English Honor Society) John Greenleaf Whittier Merit Award, John Greenleaf Whittier Scholarship in Theater Arts, Young Cancer Survivor Scholarship

PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIPS: Program coordinator, Los Angeles Music and Art School Summer Camp.

CAREER AMBITIONS AS A CHILD: Elephant trainer.

CAREER AMBITIONS NOW: Teach high school English while getting MFA in theatre and English, then teach at a community college. Write a novel, and collaborate with my husband Paul (Gallaher '07) on a travel book.

MY BEST PROJECT: *Where the Sun Shines Through the Mist: Moments in a Southern Californian Suburban Childhood*, a collection of autobiographical short stories and poems.



RAJ PANT

HOMETOWN: Kathmandu, Nepal

MAJOR: Physics and Math (double)

STATS: Summa Cum Laude, Dean's List (5 semesters), 2006 Outstanding Student in Physics and Astronomy, 2007 Pyle Award Outstanding Graduate in Mathematics, 2007 Poet Leadership Award, Sigma Pi Phi (Physics Honor Society).

PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

PRESENTATIONS: Groundbreaking quasar search at Whittier College with Dr. Glenn Gilman. Extragalactic Jets Conference (Alaska, 2007); Gamma Ray Astronomy Conference (Portland 2007); High Energy Astrophysics Division Meeting (San Francisco, 2006); Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research (2006).

CAREER AMBITIONS AS A CHILD:

driver.

PLANS POST-GRADUATION: Research assistantship for a year followed by graduate study.

BEST RESEARCH PAPER: *Gravitational Lensing: Probing the Universe through Galaxy's Telescopes*, exploring how gravitational lensing, an application of Einstein's general theory of relativity, is applied to investigate various cosmological objects, dark matter, and constants of nature.



MARINA ASIEDU

HOMETOWN: Accra, Ghana

MAJOR: Biochemistry

STATS: The W. Roy Newsom Award in Chemistry, Nu Mu Rho (Chemistry Honor Society), Freshman Chemistry Achievement Award, Dean's List (5 semesters), John Greenleaf Whittier Merit Scholarship, International Scholarship.

PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIPS: Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts.

PLANS POST-GRADUATION: University of Arizona Ph.D. program in medical pharmacology.

CAREER AMBITIONS AS A CHILD:

Medical doctor.

CAREER AMBITIONS NOW: Pharmacologist.

MY BEST RESEARCH PROJECT: *Does Wild Yam Metabolically Inhibit CYP3A4 Activity?* Investigated the inhibitory effect of wild yam, a hormone replacement herb, on the CYP3A4, which is one of the main metabolizing enzymes involved in drug metabolism.

THE MOST EXCITING DEVELOPMENT IN MY FIELD IS... Bionanotechnology, the use of inorganic nanoparticles in drug delivery.

TO MAKE IT IN THIS FIELD OF STUDY, IT TAKES... persistence.



Photos by Paul Gallaher '07

JACQUIE RISCHÉ

HOMETOWN: Fullerton, CA

MAJOR: Mathematics

STATS: Phi Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society), Pyle Mathematics Prize, Outstanding Graduate in Mathematics, Distinction in Mathematics, Dean's List (6 semesters).

PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

OR PRESENTATION: Applied Mathematical Sciences Summer Institute (AMSSI). Presentation (prize-winning) at the MAA Undergraduate Poster Session at the MAA-AMS Joint Mathematics Meeting in New Orleans in January 2007.

PLANS POST-GRADUATION: University of California, Irvine, Ph.D. program in mathematics.

CAREER AMBITIONS AS A CHILD:

To be a chef.

CAREER AMBITIONS NOW: Math professor at a liberal arts college.

MY BEST RESEARCH PROJECT: *A Look at Turbo Codes*, examining the different components of turbo codes, which are used to encode data sent into deep space and in satellite communications.

TO MAKE IT IN THIS FIELD OF STUDY, YOU HAVE TO BE... hardworking.

FINAL LESSONS

Inspired Words Mark 104th

"Keep learning, keep exploring, and trust that the foundation you have gained here at Whittier will help to light your path. Live the full, complicated, adventurous life that your faculty has prepared you to live, and be confident as you take those leaps [into the unknown]."

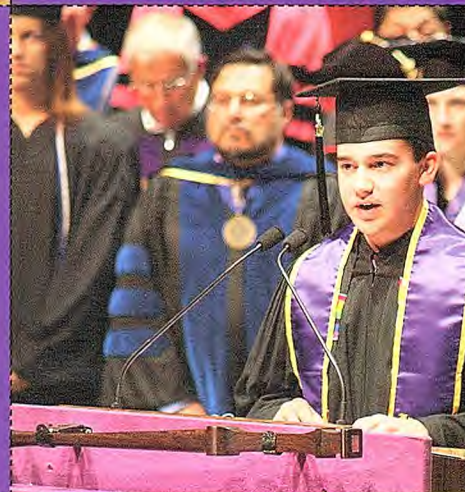
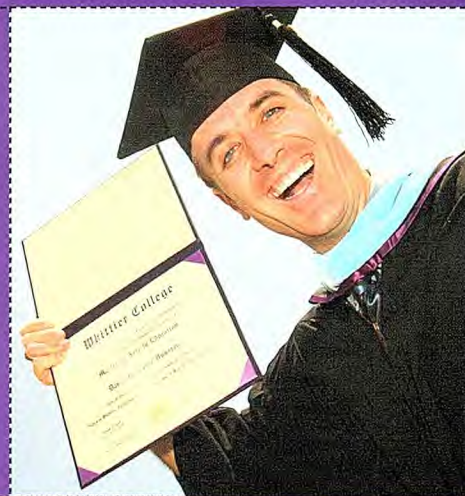
— **PRESIDENT SHARON HERZBERGER,
CHARGE TO THE SENIOR CLASS**

"You are already heroes to the faculty—you have, after all, made it through our classes. But more importantly, you will give added meaning to our lives by what you do with your lives. No matter what field you choose...you can help create the conditions in which people [of all nations] can learn to 'beat their swords into plowshares.' I wish you good luck, Godspeed, and a spacious phone booth where you can change into your superhero 'cape and gown.'"

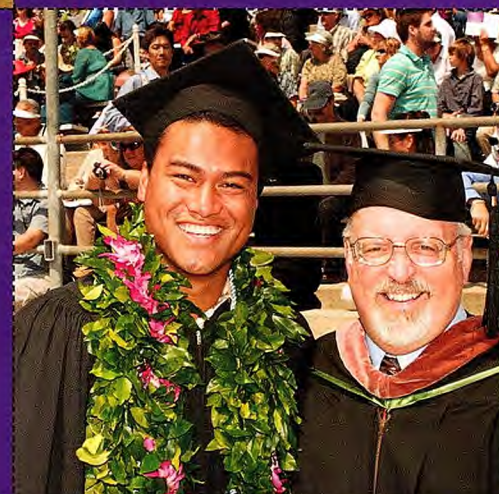
— **PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL
SCIENCE MIKE MCBRIDE,
BACCALAUREATE ADDRESS**

"What I love most about Whittier [is that] you...have always been proud to be known as "Poets." As Whittier Poets, you learn how to read and listen, and to hear with your hearts. To see the essential realities that can only be described by a metaphor. You know that there are human truths that will never be adequately expressed or contained in a mere explication of the facts. And as graduates of a college founded by a great abolitionist poet, you understand the obligation we all share to make our words and our deeds matter in the world."

— **LOS ANGELES MAYOR
ANTONIO VILLARAIGOSA,
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**



Commencement





2006-2007 FUNDRAISING RESULTS

Photo by David Zaitz



BRICKS FOR SALE.

Though a few of the commemorative, "named" bricks that mark Founder's Walkway may be removed during construction of the Campus Center, the legendary pathway will be fully restored in future, expanded with any additional bricks purchased in the 2007-08 fiscal year.

THANKS TO THE WONDERFUL FINANCIAL SUPPORT of almost 6,000 alumni, parents and friends of Whittier College, more than \$7.2 million were contributed in the 2006-2007 fiscal year to support a broad range of key programs and initiatives, including:

- Breaking ground on the new Campus Center (completion slated for Summer 2008);
- Renovating Ball and Johnson Residence Halls;
- Establishing four new scholarship endowments;
- Creating a new endowed professorship;
- Designing a fearsome new athletic logo, refurbishing the weight room in the Graham Athletics Center, providing additional funding for coaches, and installing new lights in the football stadium;

- Providing scholarships and internships to 75% of our deserving undergraduate students;
- And much, much more!

FOUNDATIONS REPORT

Over the years Whittier College has enjoyed the support of numerous leading foundations to advance the College's academic programs and campus infrastructure. This past year, Whittier saw a renewed commitment from a number of these philanthropic partners in support of our key initiatives. We are particularly grateful to the Rose Hills Foundation, Weingart Foundation, and Ahmanson Foundation for their generous support of the Campus Center renovation project. In addition, The Fletcher Jones Foundation provided essential funding for science equipment needs for new faculty in shared, interdisciplinary research spaces.

The Mellon Foundation provided new funding through a President's Discretionary grant to help the College continue to matriculate a diverse student body and to support these students in their academic pursuits. Mellon also provided funding for a new Environmental Science Initiative designed to enable students to learn the deeply interdisciplinary nature of environmental issues and prepare themselves for the collaborative teamwork in environmentally focused careers. The Ann Peppers Foundation and the Assistance League of Whittier continued their support for student scholarships. And, Southern California Edison provided a grant to the Ortiz Programs for leadership development projects and community-based learning projects aimed to provide sustainable, continuing improvement of Hispanic students' retention and graduation rates.

PRIVATE GIFTS

Colleges rely on their alumni, parents, and friends for philanthropic support to sustain academic and extra-curricular programs. Whittier College is no different, and this year showed a marked rise in support from individual donors. Alumni contributed more than \$3.8 million in cash gifts toward a broad-range of institutional priorities including scholarships and internships, the Bach Festival, faculty salary parity, athletics, and capital projects. Gifts from parents nearly doubled this year, with particularly strong support coming from the Friends of Men's Lacrosse, a group founded by parents of current players to make Whittier lacrosse one of the premiere Division III programs in the western United States and in the nation. A leadership gift made by trustee and parent David Mandarich (P'96) for a new synthetic turf field for football and lacrosse illustrates the pride and commitment many parents exhibit toward their children's *alma mater*.

>> BE A LEGEND. THE FIRST JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER SOCIETY DINNER WAS HELD AT THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL IN 1923. JOIN JGWS NOW BY CALLING THE OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT, 562.907.4219.



FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

GREETINGS FROM WHITTIER COLLEGE!



FELLOW POETS:

As the last bars of Pomp and Circumstance wafted through the Poet campus, and the newest members of the Alumni Association clutched their diplomas, the Alumni Office welcomed the quiet summer months and

focused its attention on creating more avenues for Poet alumni to connect with the College. And I am pleased to report that we now have added faces, places, and technologies to assist us all in establishing new relationships and reviving old friendships.

Our newest face in the Alumni Office is Marilyn Neece '73, director of alumni relations, who brings tremendous warmth, energy, and a love of Poet tradition to her new role. She is vitally committed to work with the Alumni Board to develop and expand regional chapters, schedule engaging programs on campus and off-site, identify new members for the Board, and build volunteer strength. Teaming with Marilyn are Ana Gutierrez '96,

assistant director of alumni relations, and Ann Gronewald, administrative assistant. All three of these talented and dedicated individuals stand ready to assist us in remaining actively engaged with our alma mater.

An example of the Alumni Office's renewed commitment to involving alumni in the life of the College is the formation of W.A.V.E. (Whittier Alumni Volunteer Experience). This new program was initiated in September 2007 to provide alumni volunteers with the leadership training, information, and tools necessary to contribute to our alma mater in a manner that will be enjoyable and meaningful for all, as well as provide a lasting impact toward the success of the institution. We are ever so grateful to all our volunteers for their commitment and dedication. Please contact the Alumni Office to learn more about exciting volunteer opportunities waiting for you!

Thanks to the generosity of members of the Class of 1957, alumni now have a dedicated gathering place on campus. The new Faculty Master/Alumni House

(formerly Johnson Faculty Master House) will provide a home and hospitality site for selected alumni programs and special events (see page 42).

This fall new technology will enable us to transform how we communicate with the College and with each other as we unveil the Poet alumni online community. We are extremely pleased and excited about the possibilities for easy and instant connection with classmates, teammates, and faculty—all online. You will learn more about this exclusive Poet social networking site in the coming weeks, and I encourage you to become an early adopter of this exciting new resource for alumni.

I invite you to be a part of the vibrant alumni community and share in the Whittier experience. I hope to see you on campus for Whittier Weekend, and throughout the year ahead!

Sincerely,

José E. Casillas '87

▼ A NEW ERA BEGINS.

New Director Marilyn Neece '73 joins Ann Gronewald, administrative assistant, and Ana Gutierrez '96, assistant director, making the Alumni Relations Office once again fully staffed.

ALUMNI OFFICE UNDER NEW LEADERSHIP

MARILYN NEECE '73 has had a dizzying number of relationships with Whittier College. She's been a student, an alumna, a volunteer, the director of corporate and foundation relations, and now director of alumni relations, effective June 1.

In her new role, however, Marilyn's wealth of expertise in program development will be a critical asset; her credentials include more than 18 years in non-profit management, helping organizations develop growth strategies and establishing her own consulting enterprise targeted at board development. She has also worked with the Whittier Uptown Association and the Pico Rivera Chamber of Commerce, overseeing operations of their volunteer boards of directors and producing a series of successful festivals, parades, golf tournaments, and business expos.

In her inaugural year with the Alumni Relations Office, Neece will work with the Alumni Board and members of the faculty and staff to actively engage alumni in the life of the College through a wide variety of programming, volunteer opportunities, and special communications. Already underway, she has planned a leadership conference for Whittier's alumni corps of volunteers—an event she expects will be an annual offering.

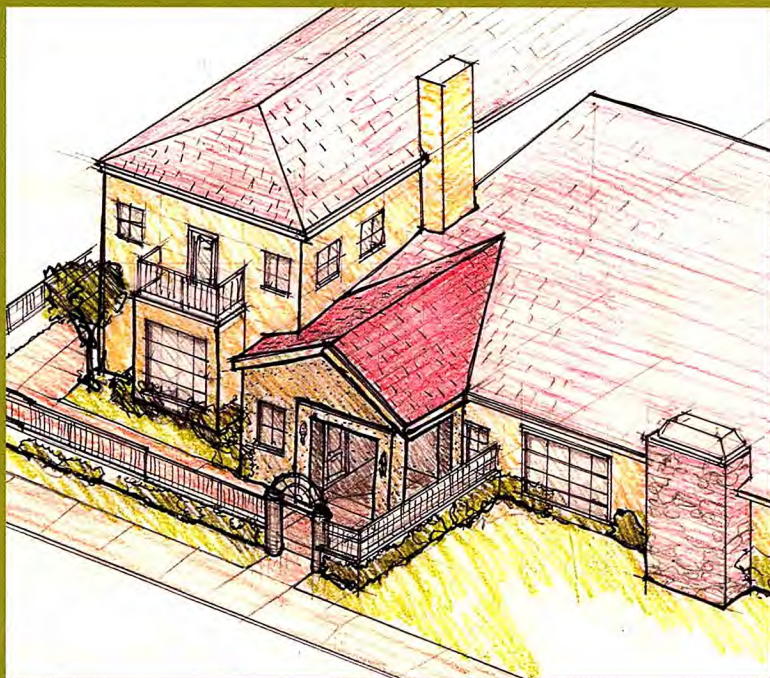


Photo by Tatiana Shabelnik

>> PLAN AHEAD. REUNION COMMITTEES ARE NOW FORMING FOR WHITTIER WEEKEND 2008. INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VOLUNTEER? E-MAIL ALUMNI@WHITTIER.EDU.

A HOME OF OUR OWN

WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT from members of the Class of 1957 and other alumni, Whittier College has established a new Faculty Master/Alumni House that will serve as a permanent "home" for alumni on campus. The current Johnson Faculty Master House, located on Philadelphia Street, has been renovated with funds raised by members of the Class of 1957 and other alumni to serve in this exciting new capacity. A faculty-in-residence, Professor Sean Morris, has been appointed with responsibility for developing programming to engage alumni in the life of the College with significant student interaction. Programming in Johnson House currently focuses on first-year students with its prime location between first-year residences Stauffer and Johnson Halls. With the transformation to a Faculty Master/Alumni House, the programming focus will be expanded to include alumni visitors, mentors, and career services activities.



Establishing an Alumni House has been a high priority for the Class of 1957 for more than a decade. Combining this drive with the College's goals of creating a more deeply engaged alumni body that participates in student life on campus, and promoting a student body that understands the benefits of our alumni as a resource and as role models, was a win-win scenario. The Faculty Master/Alumni House will provide a much needed venue on campus for dedicated alumni programming and engagement.

The Faculty Master/Alumni House includes a guest apartment for short-term alumni visitors with a private entrance, bath and kitchenette. There is ample space for entertaining and hosting receptions, dinners and other gatherings. In celebration of their 50th Class Reunion, a program endowment is being established by members of the Class of 1957 to ensure adequate funding for key programs.

◀ GRAND ENTRANCE.

An artist's sketch shows the proposed, new Philadelphia Street-entryway to Alumni House, currently known as Johnson Faculty Master's House. (A "re"-dedication ceremony is planned for Whittier Weekend 2007.)

LUCKY NUMBER 7. ▶

Seven now-current Poets mingle with President Herzberger at the Hawai'i summer send-off in Oahu.



REGIONAL REPORTS

HAWAI'I CHAPTER

WITH MORE THAN 40 NEW students and families in attendance, the Hawai'i chapter once again rolled out the red carpet at an event to welcome its newest members of the Whittier College *ohana*. This year's gathering at the Oahu Country Club included the usual open Q&A session, aided by a couple of current, Hawai'i-born Poets who gave insider perspective on transitioning to the mainland campus and college life.

This year, the event also featured guest speaker Bob Morikuni '94, fast becoming a well-known figure around the islands these days for his winning turns as both girls' and boys' basketball coach at Honolulu's McKinley High School, and for his recent accolade, named conference Coach of the Year.

Concluding the afternoon, chapter leader Doug Bennett '65 offered his own wisdom, along with an invitation: "The most important thing you'll learn at Whittier is that you can make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate. You'll someday discover that that's the greatest joy in living and in Hawai'i, and our own Poet group promotes that philosophy working each year with Special Olympics. We welcome you to join us anytime along your journey, and we wish you a wonderful adventure at Whittier."

>> POETS COME BACK. IF YOU'D LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE YOUR TALENTS TO THE ALUMNI HOUSE PROGRAMMING, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS, 562.907.4222.



◀ POET PENNANT PRIDE.

Hawai'i Alumni Chapter leadership enjoy an informal gathering with the president during her July visit.

Ripley's, Whittier College Media Center Director Rich Cheatham '68 was on-hand to videotape the festivities.)

Overall, the organizing crew delivered a warm welcome for

alumni, students, and incoming freshmen. Contented guest Bob Walker '74 said, "I haven't been in touch with anyone for years, but I introduced myself and found we all shared a common bond and interest in people, life, and the education of one's mind. Everyone was friendly and willing to help. We had time to enjoy, and it was great to take a 'drive on the lake.' With the vintage look of that auto-amphibian car, I felt we could have pulled up to the In-and-Out burger stand on the lake for a burger and drink."

The Washington Chapter of Whittier College Alumni is a strong Poet community in the Northwest and regularly hosts regional Poet events, such as the local

tailgate party held in late September at the University of Puget Sound, prior to the Poet football game against the Loggers. Regular chapter gatherings include a holiday gathering in December, baseball games in spring, and the annual Summer Send-off.



▲ ALL ABOARD THAT'S GOING ABOARD.

"Captain" Dennis Welch '68 (in the floating vessel) pulls up dockside, and offers all Seattle Send-off attendees a brief cruise in his amphicar.

Islander alumni interested in attending the next chapter event, please mark your calendars for November 10 for a reception on the island of Maui, and December 15, for the annual P.O.E.T.S. service event at the Hawai'iian Special Olympics in Oahu.

Aloha!

WASHINGTON CHAPTER

ABOUT 75 POETS—both new and old—turned out for annual Summer Sendoff in the Seattle area on July 29. Generously hosted once again by Betsy and Ken Greenbaum '53, not even the typical sunless skies could dampen the congenial atmosphere of the informal lakeside BBQ.

This year, a cohort of Whittier faculty—Charles Adams, Wendy Furman-Adams, and Warren Hanson—also made the journey northward to attend the event and meet with the guests-of-honor, the incoming students and their families.

But the highlight of the afternoon was the arrival of the "amphicar," a most unusual—but fully functional—contraption owned by Dennis Welch '68. Looking like a vintage 60s Ford, the vehicle "magically" transformed from land-hugging convertible to an airtight yacht as Welch drove from shore straight into the lake. After the crowd witnessed the miracle—and became assured that Welch's vessel was, indeed, seaworthy—subsequent hours were logged by our hearty Poet cap'n giving partygoers a gratis spin around the lake. (For College archives and

CATCH THE W.A.V.E.

ON SEPTEMBER 29, Whittier College hosted the inaugural W.A.V.E (Whittier Alumni Volunteer Experience), a new program aimed to build an extensive alumni volunteer network to help promote and advance Whittier College. The daylong conference included a "State of the College" address by President Sharon Herzberger and several information and training sessions with administrators and faculty, and concluded with a "Tailgate under the Tent" event, honoring the Orthogonians prior to the home football game vs. Pomona-Pitzer.

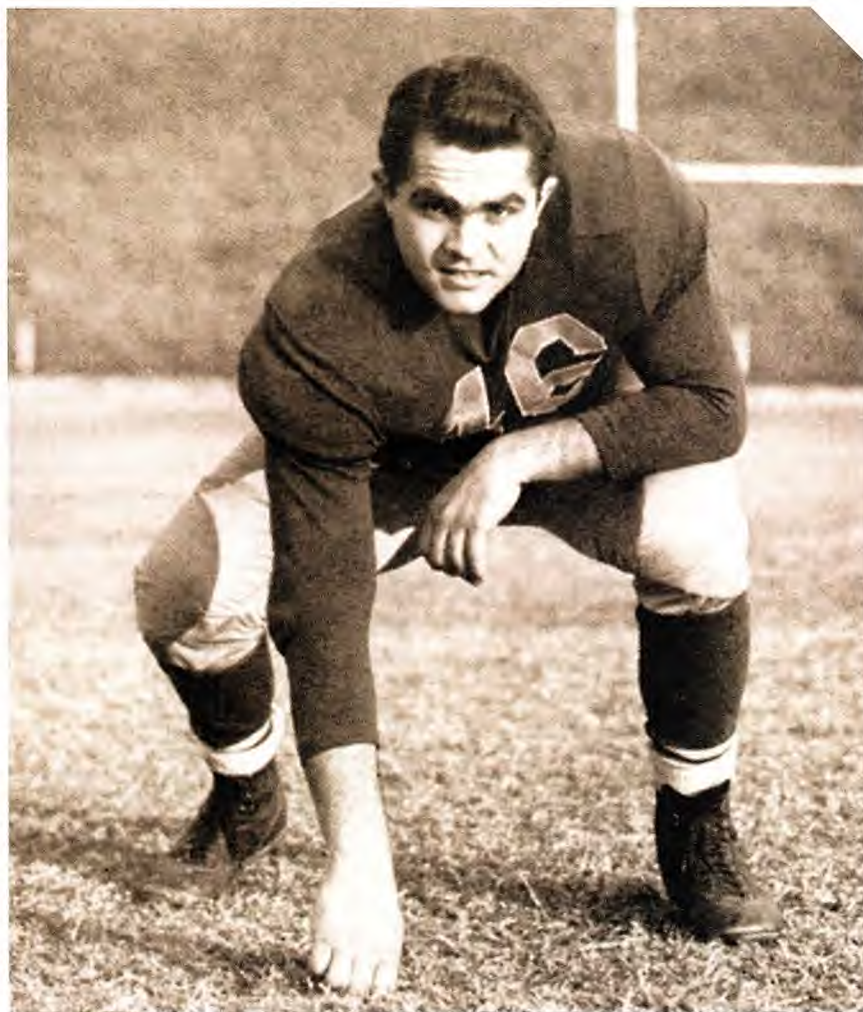
Currently, W.A.V.E. is planned as an annual event, a focused opportunity for alumni to learn about ways to become involved with Reunion/Whittier Weekend, Career Services, Admissions, Regional Alumni Chapters, Alianza de los Amigos, African American Alumni Association, Purple & Gold, and other volunteer groups. For more information on this program, please contact Marilyn Neece, director of alumni relations, (562) 907-4841 or mneece@whittier.edu.

>> CHAPTERS RULE. TO JOIN THE HAWAII POETS, E-MAIL DSHIMIZU@HAWAII.RR.COM. TO JOIN THE WASHINGTON STATE POETS, E-MAIL KRISDOBBYN@COMCAST.NET.



MEMORIES OF THE POET CAMPUS

BY HOWARD COOK '51



HUT 1, HUT 2. ►

ne of Wallace "Chief"
Newman's mighty
Poet crew, tackle
Howard Cook '51 was
among the squad who
played against the
Mexican All-Stars in
the 1950 Silver Bowl.

ON DECEMBER 23, 1950, WHITTIER COLLEGE capped a 10-1 winning football season by beating the Mexican All-Star Team 27-14 in Mexico's first Silver Bowl matchup. The televised game was played in Mexico City's Aztec Stadium before 50,000 fans.

The celebration and story of this 50-year-old event, in which this author participated, is relevant for many reasons. It was Whittier's first—and so far only—appearance in a post-season bowl game. It was the culmination of two years of back-to-back SCIAC championships and a two-season record of 19-2. It also marked "Chief" Wallace Newman's final turn as Whittier's head football coach.

The squad of 35+ coaches, managers, a trainer, and Dr. Newsom were bussed to the Tijuana Airport, where they were to fly by DC-4 to Mexico City. (Then-*Acropolis* editor Bob Casjens '51 and his brother Carl '49 went along to cheer on the team, along with about 30 more Whittier supporters.) The flight was scheduled at 5 p.m., but didn't leave until after midnight. When asked [about the delay], the Mexican officials replied "*No gasolina!*" Sure enough, about 11 p.m. a gasoline truck was seen laboring up the long, winding hill to the airport. After fueling, the plane took off for an uneventful all-night flight to Mexico City, but skeptics did express some concern over the Mexican *mañana* spirit.

The team spent eight days in Mexico City to acclimate to the high altitude and the hospitality shown by the native hosts was outstanding. A hotel, the Vermont, was provided for Whittier's exclusive use. Official guides ushered the Poets to Xochimilco, the floating gardens, the pyramids, Carlotta's Castle, the Palace Of Fine Arts, the church at Guadalupe, the

POETS LAND IN CYBER-SPACE

PREMIERING THIS FALL, Whittier alumni can now meet up, swap stories and photos, and get all the latest news from campus online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The new Poet online community offers social and professional networking features, message boards, chat rooms, an online directory, alumni news updates, photo galleries, and a place to submit—and read—class notes. Membership in the community is free, but is limited to alumni of the College only. Online registration is required for all participants, as the site will be accessible through a password-protected gateway. Each registrant will be issued a unique identification and password, which can then be used for the life of the membership.

During Whittier Weekend 2007, an Internet café will be available for online community sign-ups, and alumni relations staff will be on-hand to answer questions or walk you through the registration process.

>> SINCE THE 1915 INCEPTION OF SCIAC, THE POETS HAVE CAPTURED 26 CONFERENCE FOOTBALL TITLES, EIGHT OF WHICH WERE CONSECUTIVELY WON.

National Palace, the Chrysler car plant, and the Hipodromo race track, where the team was officially welcomed and a queen and her court were crowned. At night, five or six “unofficial companions” escorted the group to hot spots in the city. The team also attended two very large Christmas Posadas, one of which was held at the home of the head of the Mexico City YMCA, a Whittier alumnus. At both parties, there were many pretty girls and much dancing.

Mexican pre-event publicity surrounding the game was as extensive as that of any Rose Bowl. It was difficult to believe, but all of the towns’ newspapers had front-page headlines [heralding Whittier’s visit] and “about town” pictures of the team. Most papers featured Poet Hall of Fame fullback Herman Reed ’50, [who they dubbed] “The Black Greyhound.”

Daily practices still took place; Chief Newman made it clear that he expected us to win, but that he also wanted us to enjoy ourselves. The game itself was somewhat anti-climatic, as both the defensive and offensive lines easily dominated the field. Jim Stecklien ’51, Whittier’s All-Conference and Little All-Coast halfback, scored three touchdowns, and Ray Dezember ’53, of Little All-Coast fame, led an effective Whittier passing attack.

On Christmas Eve the team returned home, and Whittier’s Bowl experience was history.

Quoting the 1951 *Acropolis*, “The Poets flew to the Mexican capitol and enjoyed a luxurious vacation on the first bowl trip for Whittier.”

SONGBIRD. ▼

In June 2007, cabaret songstress Marleena Coulston ’03 released her debut CD—a self-titled, three-song “single,” currently available for purchase on her website.



MARLEENA COULSTON '03 KNOWS THE POWER OF MUSIC

IN THE FOUR YEARS SINCE GRADUATION, I’ve been hard at work, building a career in music performance. For two years I sang with popular Southern California cover band *Ray and the Idols*; I’ve recorded studio background vocals and demos for songwriters; and I’ve participated in several musical theater productions. I have professionally performed at the College, too, appearing in the “Club Cabaret” series at the Shannon Center, and as a featured soloist in the Presidential Inauguration Celebration event (*Whittier College: Past, Present, And Future*, taped live at the Shannon Center). And recently, I released a self-titled, three-song CD “single”—a rather big accomplishment, as it was my first independent studio project.

I am also legally blind.

Now, I’ve always been active in promoting positive disability awareness; while a student at Whittier, I worked for the disability services office and was involved in planning events for Diverse Identities Week. Currently, I’m employed with the Braille Institute in Orange County and in Los Angeles as director for the Johnny Mercer Children’s Choir. In this role, I work with both blind and visually impaired children, not only teaching music, but helping build their self-confidence and self-esteem through performance. Above all, I strive to be a role model to my students as an independent, legally blind individual who has succeeded in college and is now living out her dream.

This past summer, an incredible opportunity came my way that combined both my musical pursuits and disability awareness advocacy.

I was one of only seven nationwide invited to perform at the “Start with the Arts” Family Festival in Washington, D.C., a renowned event sponsored by international service organization Very Special Arts, an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

I felt so honored to be among these talented performers. I remember watching this incredible dance troupe—they were so beautiful, their movement so fluid—it really was like watching art. It wasn’t until midway through that I realized that these dancers were all amputees. And in that moment, it was so clear. This is what it’s all about, focusing on abilities, not disabilities. And that, I think, is the greatest lesson that can be learned.

>> WHAT’S YOUR STORY? HAVE A FAVORITE MEMORY OF THE POET CAMPUS TO SHARE? USING YOUR DEGREE IN AN UNUSUAL WAY? THEN LET US KNOW VIA [THEROCK@WHITTIER.EDU](mailto:therock@whittier.edu).

POET → TO POET

MARRIAGES & COMMITMENTS

Alfred J. "Al" Gobar '53 and Cathleen Anderson in February of 2006. → **Kaaren (Steubeck) Gerace '66** and spouse, March 31, 2006. → **Kelli Hokanson '88** and Erik Jones, September 26, 2006. → **Marleena Coulston '03** and Marcus S. Barber II, December 31, 2006. → **Jennifer Zavala '03** and Daniel Barr, October 28, 2006.

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

To Jennifer and **L. Mercer Borden IV '91**, a son, Thatcher Curtis, in July of 2007. → To **Michael Shore '92** and **Kirsten (Belknap) '93**, a daughter, Anna Caroline, August 17, 2006. → To **Lyn (Dobrzycki) '96** and **Mitch Carty '96**, a son, Spencer Miles, January 9, 2007. → To Kathryn and **Calvert Hose '93**, a daughter, Kadyne Leina'ala, November 22, 2006. → To John and **Gina (McMahon) Bartok '96**, a son, Connor Zane, May 4, 2007. → To **Curtis Galvin '99** and **Katie (Burns) '01**, a daughter, Brooke Isabel, in April of 2007. → To **Adrienne (Napoli) '04** and **Michael Bryant '05**, a daughter, Katelyn, October 5, 2006. → To Patrick and **Jennifer Trempe-Thomas '95**, a son, Ciaran Patrick, August 8, 2006. → To **Rene Dixon '02** a daughter, Reese Nicole Ballmaier, May 8, 2007.

CLASS NOTES

'29

Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Lillian (French) Flanders turned 100 years old, celebrating with family at a birthday gala.

'36

Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Helen (Banks) Smith is 92 years old; she lives in Bakersfield, CA.

'41

Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Grace (Mills) Koopmans reports: "Husband Ted and I, married more than 67 years, cruised through the Panama Canal for the second time last October. Seven weeks later, Ted passed away. My life is very different now, but I am determined to make it a good one. I started my 'new life' by going snowmobiling for two weeks in the Grand Tetons in January. I had not

→ **BECOME A CLASS AGENT!** Class Agents are Whittier College ambassadors, charged with helping build a strong connection between alumni and their alma mater. Each time The Rock is published, news appears in Poet-to-Poet because Class Agents have individually reached out to classmates to collect personal and professional updates, then shared that information with the College.

Always in-the-know, Class Agents are some of our most valuable volunteers. Job requirements are simple: a minimal time commitment and the interest to keep up with your classmates and friends. At this time, Class Agents are needed for the following class years: 1935, 1936, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1944, 1945, 1947, 1951, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1976, 1977, 1983, 1987, 1991, 1996, 1997, 2006, and 2007. To become a Class Agent, or learn more about the role, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at **562.907.4222** or alumni@whittier.edu.

snowmobiled previously, but I highly recommend it. In October, I will travel in the Balkan States with my daughter. I am active in the Whittier College Alumni organization, which meets in the Puget Sound area, and am the 'grandma' of the group. Any other old-timers out there who would like to join us? 'Recent timers' are welcome too!"

'43

Class Agent
Mr. Lee H. Mahood
58 Pepperwood Way
Soquel, CA 95073-2630

Barbara (Stambaugh) Callicott and husband **Norfleet "Cal" '42** moved from Solvang to Morningside, a picturesque retirement facility in Fullerton. She keeps busy with activities such as sports, concerts, travel, and volunteering.

'47

Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Elton Fessier lives in Whittier, CA.

'48

Class Agents
Mr. Buck C. Jarnagan
539 West Puente Avenue, Apt. 2
Covina, CA 91722-6703
Mr. Bill R. Lee
5413 Mavis Avenue
Whittier, CA 90601-2122

Truman Benedict has been retired 21 years, is "quite well," and notes, "The Truman Benedict Elementary School in San Clemente, CA, was named a Distinguished California School last year."

→ **Cliff Cole** retired from teaching. He regularly rides tandem bicycle with a partner and swims in his backyard pool. He also traveled to Pakistan to see his daughter. Gerald Haynes says "each year is better than the last." He is retired, but does counter-military recruitment among high school students. → **Barbara "Bobbie" (Jones) West** completed seven years as resident manager of a self-storage facility. She and her husband celebrated their 58th anniversary. → **Marie (Nordstrom) Pike** turned 80 and still loves living in Carlsbad, CA. → **John Shultz** and his wife have been married for 61 years and reside in Temecula, CA. → **Joanne (Smith) Strem** lives in Bakersfield, CA.

'51

Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Mildred (Elliott) Gillette enjoys "active retirement." → **Joan (Hoyle) Nellis** reports: "Granddaughter Whitney attends Whittier College and spent a semester in Copenhagen; both her parents are also Whittier alums (**Mark Gorton '78** and **Sue Gorton-Nellis '77**)."

'52

Class Agent
Mrs. Mary E. (Crouch) Hawley
1330 Marie Ellen Avenue
Whittier, CA 90603-1741

Marjory "Pepper" (Curtner) Matthews writes: "My husband and I, both U.S. Marine vets of WWII, live in the largest and oldest veteran's home in the U.S. (founded in 1884). I invite any vets in the Yountville, CA, area to stop by!"

>> WANTED: MY CLASS AGENT. DON'T SEE YOUR CLASS AGENT'S NAME LISTED? FIND IT ONLINE AT WWW.WHITTIER.EDU/ALUMNI.

'53

Class Agent

Mrs. Florence (Albarian) Morrison
P.O. Box 130
Jamul, CA 91935-0130

Ellen (Babel) Arnold lives in Springville, CA.

Janet Banks "never tires of looking at the Willamette Valley" and is an active volunteer. → **Georgiana**

(Bissell) McLeod participates in local sister cities' association activities; supervises student teachers for Concordia University in Orange County; and is an avid sailor. → **Bob Case** enjoys international travel, wood-working, reading, studying astronomy, long distance driving, and visiting friends. → **Blaine Dewey** daily lunches at the senior center in Davis, CA. → **Carolyn (Dodrill) Williams** and her husband celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by getting new carpet and interior paint in their home of 38 years. Other festivities included dinner with their entire family. → **George Gaylord** lives in a retirement home in Anaheim, CA.

→ **Al Gobar** remarried in 2006 and reports: "Although I'm retired, I still go to my company's office (Alfred Gobar Associates) almost daily. My speaking schedule has been reduced from over 100 per year to 15-20. The College awarded me an honorary doctorate in 2005—greatly appreciated!" → **Ken Greenbaum** and wife Betsy celebrated their 50th anniversary on an Alaskan cruise with family. "I've officially retired; our children are running the business six months of the year, while Betsy and I live in Kauai." → **Nadine (Hambarian) Emerzian** has fond memories of her days at Whittier, and loves making new memories with her grandchildren. → **Milt Kelly** keeps busy with the ranch and traveling to see his kids, grandkids, and great grandkids. → **Walter Palmer** retired from Garden Grove Unified Schools in 1991, after 36 years as an instrumental music teacher. → **Ross Sidebottom** moved to Minden, NV, where he plays golf and spends time with grandchildren. → **Marilyn (Smallwood) Qualls** and her husband are traveling, golfing, and volunteering at the local hospital and library. They have nine grandchildren. → **Cherie (Willard) Love** resides in Ventura, CA, "spending time with family and feeling very blessed."

'54

Class Agent

Mrs. Marjorie (Conley) Aikens
368 West El Portal
Palm Springs, CA 92264-2603

Joanne (Ihrig) Reid is still fighting breast cancer after 13 years, finishing up her fourth go around.

'55

Class Agent

Mrs. Jane R. (Soderberg) Gothold
10121 Pounds Avenue
Whittier, CA 90603-1649

Walter Higbee retired but keeps busy as a volunteer and deacon at a local church.

'58

Class Agent

Rev. E. Neill Richards
29 Lehigh Place
Glen Rock, NJ 07452-1423

Gussie (Andreatta) Scionti writes: "I am grateful for support of family after the recent death of my husband. Two sons and one grandson were married this past year." → **Donn Ashton** retired in 1994, having worked for close to 40 years in the Bellflower Unified School District, including terms as principal of Mayfair and Bellflower High Schools. He has three children and six grandchildren. → **Bernard Berger** is married with three children. He maintains an active dermatology practice in Southampton, Long Island, NY, does research, and trains for triathlons. → **Donna Curry** retired from concert performance and university teaching. She remains active in music, teaching Bel Canto focal techniques, lute, vihuela, and 16th-19th century guitar. → **Vincent Deveney** and wife Sandy live in Mazatlan from November through March, and in West Linn, OR, the rest of the year. → **Joan (Folland) Perkins** retired in 1994 but continues to work in her school district as an independent contractor. Granddaughter Jenna is a sophomore at Whittier College. → **Harriet (Fuller) Lipp** retired but remains active in music, singing with several groups. Husband, John is a lay pastor at a Presbyterian church in Richland, WA; the couple has one son and two daughters. → **Charlotte (Headrick) Owens** and husband Richard celebrated their 50th anniversary in 2006. With family, the pair vacationed in Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks. Retired, Charlotte volunteers with the school choir. → **Luene (Holmes) Corwin** has been traveling the globe, primarily with Rotary; she's been to Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Denmark, Hungary, Austria, and the Czech Republic, and has visited family in Colorado. Luene is president of the Palomar College Foundation and is an aide to the Rotary district governor. → **Mary (Hoskinson) Parker** writes: "I am happy, healthy, and busy!" → **Larry Jenkins** and wife **Nancy (Eastman) '61** celebrated their 48th anniversary. Larry is still active in his business, Symbol Graphics, which supplies plotters and sign-making software. → **Olive (Murray) Slaughter** earned a Ph.D. in educational psychology and is completing a book on mothers-in-law, scheduled for publication in 2007. → **Ann (Knolmar) Pierce** lives in North San Diego and

retired from a career in education that included teaching at the elementary, secondary, and university levels and serving as an administrator of special education programs. She has one six-month-old grandson, and is expecting twin grandchildren. → **Shannon (Mihld) Belles** "feels blessed with family nearby." She is a part-time tutor, a volunteer usher at the Cultural Arts Center, and recently, she hiked in New Zealand.

→ **Sylvia (Miller) Joiner** has been married for 38 years and has 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She enjoys camping with her husband in their motor home, collecting antiques, and researching family history. → **Bob Newsom** retired from the pastoral ministry in California and Oregon Presbyterian churches; he is now a lay person volunteer for his local church. He and wife Gail have a son and a daughter. → **Robert Perry** and wife Lyn strive to take a modest vacation each quarter. → **R. Fernando Ramos** retired after 37 years as a teacher. He enjoys restoring antique aircrafts and competing in model airplane-building contests. → **E. Neill Richards** took a memorable Caribbean cruise, during which they rescued a sailor in distress. He plays an active role caring for his grandchildren. → **Carleen (Schutz) Lindberg** and husband **Carl '67** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. This past year, they attended many football games, including the USC v. NE game at the Coliseum. → **Clark "Ted" Staples** retired, but is a consultant for the Grossmont School District and is part-owner of an east San Diego County restaurant. This year, he plans to take a cruise and travel. → **Lois (Wagner) Cummings** is recently recovered from surgery, though that did not slow down visits to see her brother in D.C. and son John in Montana. Daughter Tracy teaches at San Diego State College and an adult school. → **Jeanette (Weir) Blue** became a grandmother and loves her frequent weekly visits with new grandson Joshua Yee Ping.

'61

Class Agent

Dr. Gary E. & Marian L. (Voss) Goodson
P.O. Box 8881
Brea, CA 92822-5881

Art Kaiser retired and is "enjoying the good life: golfing, snow skiing, and traveling."

'62

Class Agent

Mrs. Janice M. (Letts) Gordon
33765 Calle Conejo
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675-5016

Nancy (Eastman) Jenkins and husband **Larry '58** celebrated their 48th anniversary this summer. Nancy retired from both teaching and from her health food store. → **Tom Houston** is in the insurance business. He enjoys traveling and spending time with family and friends.

>> AH, BELLA ITALIA. JOIN US FOR AN ADVENTURE IN ITALY'S LAKE DISTRICT JUNE 10-18, 2008--THE NEXT POET TRAVELS DESTINATION. FOR DETAILS. CALL THE ALUMNI OFFICE. 562.907.4222.

POET → TO POET

'63

Class Agent
Mr. E. Guy Talbott
7031 Starlight Circle
Huntington Beach, CA 92647-3543

Cindy (Hall) Houston is a manufacturer's representative for three golf and active wear companies.

'66

Class Agent
Dr. Irving D. Hoffman
5639 Westmont Road
Whittier, CA 90601-2648

Sheri (Scott) Workman and husband William welcomed twin granddaughters to their family last August, which brings their total to nine grandchildren. → **Kaaren (Steubeck) Hathaway** is teaching Life Science at Valencia High School in Placentia, CA. She has traveled extensively and has scuba dived in the Caribbean, Fiji, & Tahiti. She has five children and seven grandchildren and is expecting the births of two additional grandchildren.

'67

Class Agent
Mrs. Jane I. (Israel) Honikman
927 North Kellogg Avenue
Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Robert Davis retired in 2007 after 38 years in financial services; he looks forward to "getting into something new." → **Bill Demmin** is commuting while establishing a bank in Temecula with a team of doctors. Wife **Dorothy "Dot" (Hodge) '66** anticipates a move to the area soon. → **Chuck Elliott** is the media center coordinator at Whittier College. He continues to write poetry and has entered 26 national contests. His photos have exhibited at the Hillcrest Art Show and the Whittier Art Association's December 2006 show, taking 1st place in photography at the latter. He and wife Joanne are rehabilitating two cabins in Green Valley Lake. → **Ann (Hanson) Burge** lives in Los Alamitos, CA. → **Tom Huffman** is "temporarily retired" and has two grandsons. → **Ted Jones** lives in Palm Springs, CA, with his wife of 38 years, **Nancy (Pedlar) '68**. → **Jean (Marshburn) Sloan** and her husband both retired in 2002. "We are enjoying a slower pace of life." → **Mary (Owens) Allen** writes poetry and plays piano at many town functions. She enjoys small town life in Rockaway Beach, OR (Pop. 500). → **Raymond Ritchey** retired; he and wife **JoAnna (Cumming) '65** are celebrating 42 years of marriage. → **Don Heathcoat** and **Janet (Schroeder) '67** are retired from a 38-year teaching career in the Hacienda/La Puente Unified

School District. With two sons in the Air Force, a daughter just graduated from college and another in college, the duo is "just plain tired"! → **Gary Skinner** retired after 35 years as a high school teacher and coach; he stays busy traveling and visiting kids and grandkids. → **Leslie (Stowell) Moyer** is a court-appointed special advocate for Voices for Children. She plays tennis, bikes, and hikes. → **Mary (Sydnor) Stanton** owns a sewing and quilt shop, The Calico Cat and Bernina Too. → **Nan Nelson** is in her mid-80s and still married to her first husband. → **Julie (Terhune) Surber** serves on a local Canadian mental health board, tutors junior high students, and edits for university students. → **Ella (Uemura) Campbell** has three grandchildren and plans to retire in 2008.

'68

Class Agents
Mrs. Barbara L. (Brucher) Sentell
307-16th Street
Seal Beach, CA 90740-6516
Mrs. Penny S. (Carns) Fraumeni
2314 Los Bentos Drive
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745-4618

Tom A. Davis retired in 2006 and moved to Lake Arrowhead, CA, with wife Kathy. Married 37 years, the couple has two daughters and two grandchildren.

'70

Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Maryl (Ball) Sellman and husband **Steve '73** report that their son, Captain Blaine Sellman, is serving a second tour of duty in Iraq.

'71

Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Lee (Dye) Takagi is helping to plan her 40th high school reunion. → **Don Rizzi** has been in secondary education for 36 years and spent the last 13 years as a principal in the San Diego area. He has two children and four grandchildren.

'72

Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Laurie (Bloomquist) McGuyre has entered her 24th year as a teacher in the Whittier area. She and her husband celebrated their 35th anniversary and enjoy visiting their two sons and grandchildren. → **George Getz** was awarded a 2006 Congressional Medal of Distinction for his unyielding support of the Republican Party, outstanding leadership in business, and contributions to the local economy. → **Patrick Lee** was

appointed conservation lands manager for Clark County, WA. He has three children in college. → **Jeanette (Peel) Croghan** is a happy great-grandmother; granddaughter Sarah now attends Whittier College.

'73

Class Agent
Deborah (Scott) Gallagher
3594 Hemlock
Reno, NV 89509

Class Agent **Deborah (Scott) Gallagher** reports: "My son Matt, a 1st Lieutenant, is scheduled for deployment to the Middle East within the next few months." → **Marilyn (Alexander) Neece** recently accepted the position of Director of Alumni Relations for Whittier College. → **Doug Bournique** lives in Vero Beach, FL. → **Laura M. Christensen** retired in April of 2005, after 26 years as a practicing chiropractor. She is currently training for the marathon and working on a marketing project. → **Sallie (Ekern) Price** teaches fifth grade and hopes to retire within the next five years. She and husband Tim run the Center for Prayer Mobilization, a ministry with inner healing and dealing with generational issues. → **Suzan "Dee Dee" (Feist) Flynn** and family live in Carlsbad, CA. → **Art Geiger** works in computer data storage. He travels, spends time with his two Labradors, and supports local sports teams— including the Poet baseball team. → **Sharon (Graham) Boyd** completed her twelfth year as a kindergarten teacher for Mulberry School in Whittier. Married 35 years, she and her husband have three children and one granddaughter. → **Linda (Grismore) Shaw** is a reading recovery teacher, listed in the current *Who's Who in American Teachers*. She has two grandsons and recently gained a daughter-in-law. → **Kathy (Harlan) Hoxmeier** lives in Ashland, OR, employed for 22 years with the Southern Oregon University Library as periodicals department coordinator. Husband Steve is a postal worker and is expanding a nearby commercial building. → **Georgianna (Jones) Walker** is president of the North Dakota Dietetic Association and plays the violin in a community orchestra. She and her husband have two children. → **Jane Maryoung** is a physical therapist in the Thousand Oaks area. → **Nancy McGuire** resides in South Pasadena, CA. → **Kathleen (Petrus) Miller** teaches part-time for an adults-with-disabilities program. → **Holly (Sprague) Fenelon** writes: "I retired early and am at work on a book about 'gold star mothers.' Living in Estes Park, CO, we see more elk on the roads than people." → **Janelle Stueck** and husband Michael have been married for 23 years. Having earned an MSW from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and a LCSW, she works for the Tennessee School for the Deaf as a behavior specialist. → **Janet (Ward) McDonald** moved to San Francisco, where her two sons attend high school. → **Leslie**

>> POETS, EN FRANÇAIS. THE 2008 POET TRAVELS PROGRAM HEADS TO THE FRENCH RIVIERA, SEPTEMBER 12-21, 2008. FOR MORE INFORMATION, E-MAIL ALUMNI@WHITTIER.EDU.

(Williams) Pruss lives in Lake Forest, CA. → Sue (Wood) Thorson and her husband celebrated their 25th anniversary; she is employed with the San Luis Coastal Unified School District as director of food service.

'82 Class Agent
Mr. Dan McMillan
12815 Rose Drive
Whittier, CA 90601-2432

John R. Crews and partners established the Dallas, TX, law firm Crews, Shepherd and McCarty LLP, specializing in the areas of business litigation, securities, and accountant liability. John was named one of the "Best Lawyers in Dallas" by *D Magazine* and a "SuperLawyer" by *Texas Monthly*. He and wife Pam have three children; eldest son Jonathon attends Baylor University.

'88 Class Agents
Mr. Kevin M. Burke
P.O. Box 1166
Lakeport, CA 95453
Ms. Kelli (Hokanson) Jones
3661 Alcott Street
San Diego, CA 92106

Kelli (Hokanson) Jones is Western region court account director with LexisNexis, expanding electronic filing of legal documents in the state courts. → Sheri Solomon lives with her five-year-old autistic son in the Bay Area, where she is an office manager for a developmental pediatrician.

'91 Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Christopher Heriza is a sales representative; he mountain bikes whenever possible. → Danikka Giaratani teaches students with learning disabilities; last summer she traveled to the Netherlands, Czech Republic, Hungary and Croatia. Son Jacob is in fourth grade.

'95 Class Agent
Ms. Nanette M. Do
77 Centre Street
Mountain View, CA 94041

Joe Akrotirianakis is a federal prosecutor in Los Angeles. → Jaime Castillo is vice president for risk management for Union Bank of California, completing his MBA at UC Berkeley. → Kevin Cope is doing well. → James Dominguez lives in New Mexico and is a fish biologist with the Department of Fish and Game. He spends 70% of his time in the field working on game species and restoration of endangered fish species.

→ Mary Gossman resides in Seattle, WA. → Barbara (Mayes) Reskusic is an intelligence analyst with the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency in Washington D.C. → Jennifer Trempe-Thomas teaches math at Point Loma High School in San Diego.

'96 Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Linda (Lee) Schraeder and husband Brett '95 reside in Altadena, CA. → Rachel (Homell) Rice is working to complete a master's in educational curriculum and instruction at San Diego State University. She teaches advanced placement English language and yearbook in the San Diego Unified School District. Daughter Annella is three.

'97 Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Natasha Tamasco-Peacock lives in Oceanside, CA. → Brenna (Werner) Holcomb lives in Bencia, CA.

'98 Class Agent
Mr. Keristofer D. Seryani
521 Meandering Lane
Turlock, CA 95382

Bryan Atwater graduated from Loyola Law School in 2005, and works for Siemens. He is building a house in San Diego and is recently engaged. → Margaret (Bacon) Brown lives in Boise, ID, with her husband and three children. One day per week, she serves as a speech/language pathologist for the Boise School District. → Jody (Himrod) Collins is a city editor for the *Press-Telegram*. → Erica (Kellam) Flores married and teaches third grade in the Anaheim City School District. → Lana Kim is a Los Angeles deputy district attorney, assigned to the sex crimes unit in the Torrance branch office. → Lisa Rollins works for the Los Angeles Galaxy, enjoying the challenges of building and maintaining the support of Southern California soccer fans. She is settling into a new home in Cypress, CA, and still plays soccer on the weekend, MLS schedule permitting. → Nina Vaccaro earned a master's in public health and now directs a non-profit coalition for community health.

'99 Class Agent
Ms. Leigha J. Lucas
PO Box 22201
Denver, CO 80222

Jeffrey Cain manages the digital media labs for USC Roski School of Fine Arts' intermedia program, and is the 2007-2008 artist-in-residence for CalArts' Center

for Integrated Media. Under his studio, the Shed Research Institute, he is also developing a website for grassroots social organizations in the Ukraine. → Dionna (Dallas) Geiser married husband Charles in May 2000. She lives in Goodyear, AZ and works for the Arizona State Fair.

'00 Class Agent
Ms. Mala M. Williams
11703 Norino Dr.
Whittier, CA 90601

Ariella Horwitz is pursuing a career in American studies. → Craig Lemelle resides in Queen Creek, AZ. → Misty Sanford married and joined a successful law practice.

'02 Class Agent
Mrs. Sarah C. H. Gerfen
1760 Larksberry Lane
Simi Valley, CA 93065

Michael Burns married and is a licensed pastor with the Brethren in Christ Church. → David Preciado works for ATL Innovations, and is currently traveling throughout Southern California to promote his company's new website.

'03 Class Agent
Mr. James Bailey
5579 Timberfalls Rd., NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114

Luc Schuette lives in China, teaching English and learning Mandarin.

'05 Class Agent
Miss Margo Chillies
2025 Addison Street
Berkeley, CA 94704

Arlene Galapia received the 2006-07 Teacher of the Year Award for the Los Nietos School District; she teaches eighth grade language arts and serves as intervention resource teacher.

'07 Class Agent
CLASS AGENT NEEDED

Rebecca Lybrand interned with ESRI and will pursue a graduate degree in environmental science at U.C. Riverside. → Jacquelyn Rische began a Ph.D. program in mathematics at U.C. Irvine. → Keely Sartori attends Florida International University, pursuing both a Ph.D. in sports nutrition and a registered dietitian's license.

>> LIVING OR WORKING ABROAD? SHOW US YOUR POET PRIDE BY SENDING YOUR PHOTO HOLDING A COPY OF THE ROCK OR WEARING WHITTIER GEAR. SUBMIT TO THEROCK@WHITTIER.EDU.

POET → TO POET

IN MEMORIAM

'25 Mary (Mead) Phillips, June 5, 2007. → '30 Floyd Votaw, August 4, 2006. → '31 Elaine (Morton) Gates, February 13, 2002. → '33 Alice (Barmore) Snedecor, October 29, 2006. → '33 E. Ferne (Pemberton) Bassford, February 5, 2007. → '35 Ruth Chambers, December 13, 2006. → '35 Margaret (Hartranft) McClure, March 28, 2007. → '38 Lois E. (Hunnicut) Joyce, April 29, 2007. → '38 Anna E. (Johnson) Spencer, April 11, 2007. → '40 Elsa (Engle) Moran, June 5, 2007. → '40 Maurice Kerchner, April 12, 2006. → '40 Richard Stanley, September 1, 2006. → '40 Susanna (Strickler) Smith, September 5, 2005. → '40 Leland Woodward, December 31, 2006. → '41 Georgiana (Stacy) Vey, March 10, 2006. → '42 Harryette Fry, October 16, 2006. → '42 Marie (Lindahl) Palmer, June 30, 2007. → '42 Mary Alice (Pynch) Neiswanger, May 29, 2007. → '42 Jack A. Spence, June 30, 2005. → '43 Robert R. Thompson, February 25, 2007. → '44 Lorraine B. (Smith) Calkins, April 19, 2007. → '45 Polly Ann (Hammond) Newberry, January 9, 2007. → '47 Elmer Sandberg, May 15, 2006. → '47 Joanna (Turner) Krogdsale, September 13, 2006. → '48 Patsy (Eberhart) Kinney, date unknown. → '48 Hank Litten, December 20, 2006. → '48 Constance (McCabe) Oswald in April of 2006. → '48 Robert Routh, April 25, 2006. → '48 Nadine (Vill) Dallara, December 9, 2006. → '48 Clyde A. Winter, April 28, 2007. → '49 Rollin E. Buckman, date unknown. → '50 Richard "Dick" Galvez, June 6, 2006. → '51 John S. Hewitson, February 9, 2007. → '51 Doris (Kemp) Jones, April 6, 2006. → '51 Lawrence Martin, June 15, 2005. → '52 George E. Fralick, August 12, 2006. → '52 Gale Paulson, May 22, 2006. → '52 Susan (Rogers) Sullivan, January 31, 2007. → '53 Thomas L. Middleton, May 15, 2007. → '54 Richard J. L. Covington, June 7, 2005. → '54 Joy (Escher) Bloom, January 17, 2006. → '54 Vivian P. (Schulte) Gardner, April 2, 2007. → '55 Paul L. Black, March 13, 2006. → '55 Gloria (Franzen) Springer, November 13, 2005. → '55 Elizabeth (Williamson) Alacche, December 29, 2006. → '56 Donald Eugene Calaway, March 11, 2007. → '56 Blair J. Kaufman, August 26, 2003. → '56 Dianne (Pickup) Ashton, January 27, 2007. → '56 Galen E. Russell, Jr., December 27, 2006. → '56 Yvonne (Weidner) Lindrum, March 27, 2005. → '56 Donald Eugene Calaway, March 11, 2007. → '57 Mary Pat (Powell) Deits, April 17, 2007. → '57 Earl Skinner, April 24, 2007. → '58 Marlene (Dreher) Marsters, January 3, 2007. → '58 Janet E. (Hile) Sarthou, April 15, 2004. → '61 Richard L. Sturgeon, December 11, 2006. → '62 David W.



REMEMBERING. Charles "Chuck" Webster '40 was a pilot in the U.S. Air Force in World War II. Shot down over Hamburg, Germany, in December of 1944, he was buried at Ardennes, Belgium. A Belgian woman, Edith, tended his grave over the ensuing years, a custom among some Belgians who are grateful for American help during the war. Edith researched Chuck's flight number and was able to contact his family, inviting them to be her guests at a memorial service at the American Cemetery in Ardennes, on May 28, 2007. While Chuck's wife Jean (Moore) Webster '42 had already passed on, his son Christopher, daughter Anne, and sister Jean Westphall were able to make the trip. (Story and photo submitted by June Rogers Oury '47).

Newquist, March 6, 2007. → '65 Tyrus K. L. Chang, July 10, 2005. → '67 Inger Sagatun-Edwards in April of 2007. → '67 Gregory Sukiasian, February 5, 2007. → '68 Vincent Godt, March 23, 2007. → '69 Diane (Steele) Hinchman, December 12, 2006. → '69 Barbara (Vallentine) Garrett-Summers (Law

School '87), March 10, 2007. → '71 George Sheridan, March 14, 2007. → '72 Char-lee (Lavarkas) Hill, January 9, 2007. → '77 Maria del Carmen Perez, April 2, 2004. → '78 Patrick S. Flanagan, January 4, 2007. → '90 Sheryn (Young) Gray, August 6, 2006.

>> DONATED BY THE ORTHOGONIANS, A SOMBER PLAQUE HANGS IN MENDENHALL, COMMEMORATING THE 18 WHITTIER COLLEGE MEN WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN WORLD WAR II.



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Steven Weston '83



Photo by Steve Burns

SO LONG, FAREWELL, AMEN. With a sparkling toast, alumni-trustee Don Remley '69 (far right) gives a celebratory send-off to the Class of 2007 senior class gift co-chairs, Jason Jenkins, Bobbie Roy, and Katelyn Carman.

ALUMNI TRUSTEES

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>> AMONG NOTABLE WHITTIER COLLEGE TRUSTEES WAS FARMER-TURNED-BUSINESS LEADER WALTER KNOTT, OF KNOTT'S BERRY FARM, WHO SERVED IN THE 1950s.

Paul Gallaher '07 Takes A Parting Shot

CLASS YEAR: 2007

HOMETOWN: Temecula, CA

MAJOR: Mathematics

STATS: *Quaker Campus* (4 years), Resident Advisor (2 years), Omicron Delta Kappa (2 years), Public Relations photographer (3 years), Athletic Department photographer (1 year).

PLANS POST-GRADUATION: I am getting married two days after graduation, and then I start work as a full-time photographer and online editor for the *Temecula Valley News*.

MOST UNUSUAL EXPERIENCE AT COLLEGE:

After traveling to 11 different countries during my semester abroad, the Photography Club sponsored a campus exhibition of 20 of my images.

FAVORITE TIME OF YEAR ON CAMPUS AND WHY:

The large downpours in January; it feels like the campus is being cleansed to make way for the new year.

BEST THING ABOUT WORKING ON THE QUAKER

CAMPUS: I'm documenting Whittier College history.

MOST CHALLENGING CLASS TAKEN: Prof. Jeff

Lutgen's *Point Set Topology*. With only three in the class, each day we had to prove several theorems on the board—basically teach each other entirely new concepts. You can't get that kind of undergraduate academic intensity anywhere but Whittier.

MOST UNIQUE CLASS TAKEN: *Sociology through*

Photography; we took several field trips to temples, museums, and urban landscapes to photograph and observe the way people interact with public spaces.

CLASS I WISH I HAD TAKEN: I wish I had taken

a history course with Laura McEnaney. She seems to have so much enthusiasm for her subject, which I suspect makes her classes exciting.

THE THING I'LL MISS THE MOST ABOUT LIVING ON

THE WHITTIER CAMPUS: Living in close proximity to 800 other people my age makes it easy for a quiet person like me to make friends.

MOST SURPRISING THING I LEARNED AT WHITTIER:

Having a broad knowledge of a variety of subjects can be more valuable than being an expert in one.

WHAT WHITTIER COLLEGE MEANS TO ME: Whittier

College is not the place where I grew up. Rather, it is the place where I learned how to grow up.



Photos by Paul Gallaher '07

cen-ter

- [SEN-ter] noun. The source of influence, action, force, etc. (Origin: Middle English)

Shan-non Cen-ter

- [SHAN-nen SEN-ter], proper noun. The source of musical influence, theatrical action, tour-de-force, etc. (Origin: Whittier College)



With a calendar of events that encompasses world music to Shakespeare to holiday fare, come see for yourself why this center is *the* center of Whittier's cultural life.

UPCOMING SHOWS**:

THEATRE

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| NOVEMBER 14-18 | Shakespeare's <i>Twelfth Night</i> |
| MARCH 12-16 | Arthur Miller's <i>The Crucible</i> |

MUSIC

- | | |
|------------|---|
| OCTOBER 20 | Festival of World Music |
| JANUARY 26 | <i>Music from the Shadowlands</i> , featuring Theresa LeVelle |
| APRIL 19 | 71st Annual Whittier College Bach Festival |

HOLIDAY

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| NOVEMBER 30 | Craigmore's Celtic Yuletide Celebration! |
| DECEMBER 1 | The AlleyCats Christmas Show |
| DECEMBER 16 | Navidad en Whittier, featuring Danza Floricanto/USA |

**Also, please consult our website for headliners and performance dates for our JazzCabaret and Aloha Concert Series, and the Family Theatre Series!

The Ruth B. Shannon Center
for the Performing Arts at Whittier College.

Isn't it time you got **centered?**

For more information, directions, or to purchase tickets, please call the Box Office at **562.907.4203**, or visit online, **www.shannoncenter.org**.

MY LIFE. MY COLLEGE.



▲ IN LAOS, EDWIN KEH '79 SAMPLES LOCAL FARE: FRIED INSECTS.

WHAT'S YOUR STORY? There are 17,000+ alumni of Whittier College, and 17,000+ stories to be told—myriad adventures and memories and unusual careers that illustrate the power of a Whittier liberal arts education. To share your story as part of the "My Life. My College." inspirational campaign, visit www.whittier.edu/giveonline. In submitting your annual gift to The Whittier Fund, you will be asked to give your responses. The Whittier Fund—making a difference this year and every year in the lives of our scholars.

My name: Edwin Keh

Class year: 1979

Major: Urban Design, Sociology, Political Science

Graduate degree: Business Management

Student involvement: Christian Fellowship

Soundtrack (1968): Theme from "Monty Python's Flying Circus"

Childhood ambition: To be an architect

First job: Editor for UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)

Current job: Independent consultant for businesses and NGOs

Whittier volunteer role: Poet Council

Proudest moment: The first time the Quaker Campus printed one of my editorial cartoons.

Inspiration: The late Charles Browning, my Whittier College sociology professor.

My life: is about taking on new challenges, learning, and growing.

My Whittier education: taught me how to think.



Whittier College
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